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THE TIMES

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TOMORROW d'rectory



Tories cheer Chancellor who refuses 'to accept short-term popularity' on tax and EMU

Plain-talking Clarke routs his critics

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE came in from the cold yesterday with a barnstorming Tory conference performance that vanquished his foes on the Right and strengthened his authority as Chancellor.

The Conservative Party underlined its yearning for unity by giving Mr Clarke the warmest ovation of the week after he told them that there was a growing "feel-good" factor in Britain that would help them win the election.

It was the clearest possible message to Mr Clarke's critics on the back benches that the party wants them to lay off him and spectacularly erased the fears of the leadership as the week began that Mr Clarke might face trouble from activists because of his uncompromising views on tax and the single currency.

As the applause for Mr Clarke rang round the Bournemouth centre John Major joined the Chancellor and they faced the audience together, arms aloft.

It was intended to be a graphic symbol of the closeness between Mr Major and Mr Clarke and to kill any suggestions that the Chancellor could be ditched before the election. Mr Major is known to have been exasperated by some of Mr Clarke's recent outspoken comments on monetary union but he has told friends that to lose him would be unthinkable.

Michael Heseltine was swift to capitalise on the palpable desire for loyalty with a fierce warning to dissidents that they would earn the party's "utter contempt" if they handed power to Labour.



"Kenneth's very popular now but it won't necessarily be in a few months"

Mr Heseltine became the first senior minister this week directly to confront the threat from Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party. He asked Sir James what he thought he would gain by putting up candidates where it would hurt the Conservatives most. "What will Britain gain? Do you really want Labour to win? Have you counted the cost?" he demanded.

Mr Clarke's triumph was all the more marked because a key component of the speech was a warning against expecting giveaway tax cuts in the Budget. He also managed to win cheers for the wait-and-see policy on the single currency, a stance which most Conservatives believe cannot be changed because of Mr Clarke's opposition.

His reception contrasted with the less enthusiastic ovation given to Michael Portillo, one of the regular conference darlings, after a speech in which he, too, for "unity, unity, unity."

The Chancellor appeared to have won over the conference both by his plain-speaking and because it felt he had shown them a way to win. From the start it appeared that the rank and file wanted to back him and he broke the ice when in a clear reference to his defiant pro-European stance he said: "I do not think I can ever be accused of aiming for short-term popularity."

Mr Clarke did not rule out tax cuts, and most Conservative MPs believe he will trim a penny off income tax in next month's Budget. But his speech was a rebuff to rightwingers such as John Redwood who have been calling for much bigger cuts.

His theme was that if the Tories won the election they would achieve a 20p basic rate. He said: "Affordable tax cuts are good for the economy. Unaffordable tax cuts can only damage the economy."

Tory strategists were delighted. Their twin dreads as the week started was that the fringe of the conference would

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CHRIS HARRIS

Welcome applause: Gillian and Kenneth Clarke after the Chancellor's speech. "Affordable tax cuts are good for the economy," he said

Major to promise £5bn boost for NHS

BY OUR POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR will today reinforce his commitment to the health service with a "guarantee" of £5 billion in increased spending over five years if the Conservatives win the election.

He is to lift the veil on the Conservative election manifesto by revealing that the document will contain a pledge to achieve growth in real terms in National Health Service spending throughout the next Conservative Government. The Prime Minister's move is designed to put Labour on the spot, since Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has forbidden his Shadow Cabinet colleagues to make spending commitments.

Mr Major will also use his keynote speech at the end of what is seen as a successful Tory conference to herald the introduction of a 21st-century version of the old-style cottage hospitals.

He will announce the immediate introduction of new laws to allow health trusts to employ GPs directly in order to help the NHS to tackle the chronic problem of poor standards in general practice in the inner cities. The legislation will also allow GPs to carry out more minor surgery in their own practices, which would ease the load on hard-pressed hospitals.

Mr Major will emphasise his personal commitment to the health service by saying that "in this country, when you are ill, they take your temperature. In other countries they take your credit cards. While I am in Downing Street, that will never happen here."

The Prime Minister will describe the new plans as an example of the continuing "quiet revolution" in the NHS and will refer to Britain's family doctors as the "gateway to the health service".

Mr Major will also put his stamp on the conference theme of "opportunity for all", claiming that the Tories will continue to offer five opportunities — to be safe, to get a job, to have more choice in education, to have free health care and to become better off.

The promise to increase real-term spending on health was also made at the last election, since when it has gone up by £4.8 billion to the present total health budget of £42.6 billion. Mr Major will indicate that he wants a similar increase in the Conservatives' next term.

The Prime Minister's undertakings on spending come in spite of a warning yesterday from William Waldegrave, the Treasury Chief Secretary, that the current expenditure discussions between ministers are proving difficult. In a speech at Bournemouth, Mr Waldegrave emphasised the Government's target of eventually reducing the state's share of total spending to below 40 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP).

Teenagers make plea for peace

Five Northern Ireland teenagers — four Protestants and one Roman Catholic — have urged the IRA to abandon its terrorist campaign.

The students from Lisburn, Co Antrim, joined together after their school's grounds were showered with shrapnel from Monday's Army base attack .....Page 2

United attracts takeover bids

Manchester United is being lined up as the subject of a takeover bid. The club has already rejected an approach by Michael Grade, chief executive of Channel Four, who is also chairman of a a video distribution company. Whitbread and Granada are believed to be expressing interest ..... Page 48

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Former minister found slumped in street after party

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tory MP Sir Nicholas Scott, 63, was found by police lying face down on the pavement in a confused state yards from John Major's Conservative Party conference hotel.

The former Northern Ireland Minister, who was convicted of drink-driving in March, was unsure of where he was when discovered at 11pm on Wednesday, police sources said. He had been at an Irish Embassy party.

The incident came 24 hours after Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, had told the conference police would be given powers to confiscate alcohol from drunken teenagers. A Tory party spokeswoman attempted to play down the incident last night, saying: "He was not arrested. He was taken home to his hotel in a police car."

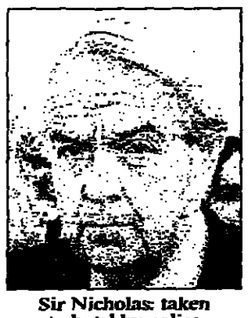
Sir Nicholas was found slumped in Tregonwell Road on the way to his £50-a-night Trouville Hotel. He refused to discuss the matter yesterday. "I will talk to the police. I will not talk to you," he said. Dorset Police, in a statement last night, said: "We can confirm that a man was driven by Dorset Police back to his hotel late on Wednesday night after being found in Tregonwell Road, Bournemouth."

Tory party officials were dismayed by the incident. "It's the last thing we needed," said one official last night.

The MP for Chelsea, who has been selected to fight the new constituency of Kensington and Chelsea at the next election, was at his party's conference yesterday but he kept a low profile.

In March Sir Nicholas was banned from driving for a year and ordered to pay £900, for drink-driving and failing to stop after an accident in Chelsea the previous June. The MP's car had shunted another vehicle and a boy aged three was trapped in his crushed pushchair.

Horseferry Road court was told that Sir Nicholas had left the scene without knowing whether the child was hurt.



Sir Nicholas: taken to hotel by police

Investors cautioned over bank on Internet

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE Bank of England has issued a blunt warning to UK investors to "think carefully" before handing over their money to an offshore bank that is advertising for depositors on the Internet.

European Union Bank (EUB) is a tiny institution backed by American investors and based in Antigua. Until last month it was chaired by Lord Mancroft, 39, an Old Etonian. Lord Mancroft, who confirmed that he had met Michael Foot, the Bank's director of supervision, yesterday about EUB, said: "I understand their concerns." He added that his contract as chairman of EUB had expired last month.

The sharp warning to UK investors from one of the Bank's most senior directors reflects the concerns of City watchdogs about the possible proliferation of financial services being offered on the Internet and which fall outside their regulatory scope. If any such firm failed investors would not be covered by the UK compensation schemes.

The Bank said of EUB: "This bank is not authorised in the UK and has not sought authorisation. As with other offshore deposits we would advise intending depositors to carry out appropriate due diligence."

Church attack on BBC's anti-gay Thought for Day

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Church of England accused the BBC last night of a serious error of judgment in transmitting a *Thought for the Day* yesterday in which an evangelical Christian condemned the Church's stance on homosexuality.

Ann Atkins, a vicar's wife and mother of four, said on the Radio 4 programme that on the issue of homosexuality the Church was failing to sound the trumpet for biblical morality. "If the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who should prepare himself for the battle?" she asked.

But in an unprecedented complaint to the Rev Ernest Rea, head of religious programmes, and to Roger Mosey, editor of *Today*, during which *Thought for the Day* is broadcast, the Church demanded an apology for a piece it said was "preposterous" and factually inaccurate. The Church of England's stance on homosexuality is officially one of tolerance of lay homosexuals in committed relationships; homosexual clergy are expected to live as celibates.

Mrs Atkins specifically criticised a controversial celebration planned at Southwark Cathedral in London next month to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement. She said there was "a world of difference between homosexual orientation and practice". It was the Church's duty to love everyone, "but it's also the Church's duty to condemn sin and it's this that we're failing to do."

She predicted: "Soon, no doubt, we'll have an adulterer's Christian fellowship, a sex-before-marriage Christian fellowship — I see no reason why the list should ever end unless and until the Church comes back to God's standards of morality."

She said she was not surprised by the church report which disclosed this week that numbers entering the ordained ministry were falling: "In an age in which bishops are supporting a cathedral event celebrating 20 years of gay sex we should hardly expect anything else."

The Rev Eric Shegog, the Church's director of communications, said the BBC was ill advised to have broadcast the piece, which he said was factually inaccurate. "To say that a decline in vocations is attributable to the Church's position on homosexuality is preposterous," he added.

The Rev Richard Kirker, of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, said Mrs Atkins's contribution had brought *Thought for the Day* into disrepute.



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Houdini of Love witnesses Chancellor's escape

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

The Chancellor faced what may have been an historic challenge yesterday. On the success of his speech rode the hopes of his wing of the party. Had this conference sent Kenneth Clarke packing, we would have said the Tory Centre Left was finished for some time.

After the speech, it becomes possible to believe it has only just started. For once, he made an effort and, frankly, walked it. If a man can receive a stomping ovation for promising *not* to cut taxes, how might he be received when he cuts them?

This was quite a good speech, very well delivered, rapturously received. If in a decade we reread the texts of the conference speeches of 1996, we will cringe at Tony Blair's, wince at Michael Howard's and respect Clarke's, but wonder what made it seem quite such a sensation.

There were three ingredients to his success. Tories had been told by the media that they were depressed and would shortly demonstrate this by booing their Chancellor. Representatives were damned if they were going to oblige. Second, the apparent ideological savagery of the Tory rank and file is often just saloon-bar talk. On matters of substance, particularly the economy and Europe, ordinary Conservatives are more cautious than they sound. Especially this is true of the women. Third, nobody who has spent the past week at Bournemouth can have failed to notice the craving from the conference floor for unity.

Hit this button, as speaker after speaker has found, and you are engulfed in passionate applause. John Major is popular with representatives. Toward MPs who rock the boat (even when they sympathise with their views) representatives feel something little short of rage. You can pack a fringe meeting with a hundred applauders for any fringe opinion but when scattered among the mass of conference-goers, they feel the weight of group-disapproval and pipe down.

But the conventional wisdom — that professional Tory politicians are sagacious and responsible while the Tory masses are some kind of unstable, Gadarene mob to be kept in check — has been turned on its head. This week in Bournemouth it is the Conservative rank and file which has scented danger and called their swinish MPs to order. It seems to me that Kenneth Clarke sensed this more clearly and earlier than many and played on it to great effect yesterday. Of course he was also banging his own drum, but he made it sound like nothing but the drumbeat of unity and had the troops cheering him with more warmth ever before.

I watched Steven Norris, watching him. Mr Norris was suspended in a tiny TV studio hung from the wall: the third commentator to spend a day interpreting for BBC viewers.

On Tuesday it was David Mellor: a sideshow of his own beneath the television lights. Perspiring, teeth glinting through the thick soundproofing glass, mouth opening and closing, goldfish-like, without sound, Mr Mellor resembled a show-trial serial killer in a maximum-security glass box. Representatives craned their necks up in horror and fascination.

Wednesday brought Edwina Currie, in sequinned electric blue such as might be worn by the lady the conjuror saws in half. An illuminated exhibit floating in space, she stole the show like minor royalty in an opera box.

And, for yesterday's freak show, Steven Norris. Roll up! The Houdini of Love, exhibited in a box. Norris was there to explain the conference to the world. But the world stared back, more interested in the explanation for Mr Norris.

'Bombs do not ask questions, they silence them — do not be silenced'

Pupils plead with IRA to abandon campaign

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

FIVE teenagers from across Northern Ireland's sectarian divide have issued a public plea for peace and urged the IRA to abandon its campaign.

The A-level students — four Protestants and one Roman Catholic — at Wallace High School, in Lisburn, Co Antrim, joined together after the school's grounds were showered with shrapnel from Monday's double car bomb attack at the neighbouring Army barracks. The five pupils, who collected the shrapnel after the attack, decided to take a public stand and composed a statement pleading for a return to the peace process. Peace campaigners said the youngsters' appeal provided one of the few signs of hope.

Sandra Holmes, 17, who is studying for three science A levels and who hopes to become a doctor, said after helping to draft the statement: "We just wanted people to hear what has been the unheard voice of the younger generation in this country. The generation that is growing up know nothing but conflict before the ceasefire. We don't want future generations to grow up with that acceptance of terrorism."

The teenagers, who were holding a debate at the time of the attack, described the bombs as a "blast from the past". They wrote: "The unanimous reaction of those present was one of shock and disbelief as our hopes of a secure future were shattered. What now? We have been described as 'tomorrow's generation'. But by tomorrow our thirst for peace could be sacrificed by the relentless pursuit of political ends by a violent minority in our community.

"We grew up in a society where conflict was accepted as the norm. Had it not been for the recent ceasefire which helped us to realise what normality should be like, we may have continued to accept violence as an everyday way of life in Northern Ireland."

The pupils, whose school motto is *Esperance*, asked what they could hope for. They wrote: "Bombs do not discriminate. The pupils on the playing fields were of all creeds and colours. Bombs do not ask questions. They silence them. If you feel as we do, do not be silenced, stand up and be counted."

The pupils said that they did not believe they were brave to go public. Stacey Wray, 16, said: "If you believe in something strongly enough, you should be prepared to stand up for your convictions. I had no qualms about putting my name to the statement."

Karl Byrne, 16, another signatory who is also studying for three science A levels, said it was important to act quickly. "We cannot give in to this kind of terrorism because if we are not careful the barriers could come down again." The statement was also signed by Sinnead Sellers and Sandra Harte, both 16.

The statement was praised by Women Together for Peace, who will hold a rally for peace outside Belfast City Hall today. Eileen Bell, one of the rally's organisers, said they had her unreserved support against the people of violence.

☐ The RUC yesterday arrested a man in his 30s in West Belfast in connection with the attack. It was not clear whether the man arrested was connected with a photofit issued by the police of a suspect who bought a car used as the getaway vehicle.

CRISPIN RODWELL



Stacey Wray, left, and other pupils with shrapnel found on the school fields after the attack on army barracks

Adams attacks Bruton for 'politics of the soundbite'

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A WAR of words broke out last night between the Irish prime minister and Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, following John Bruton's comments comparing the IRA with the Nazis.

Mr Adams said many would resent Mr Bruton's use of the term. Mr Bruton compared the IRA to Nazis in a speech to the Irish parliament on Wednesday, during which he condemned the IRA for its attack on the British Army base in Lisburn.

Last night Mr Adams said it said it would be easy for him to slip into similar name-calling, "but such an approach would be deeply unhelpful at this dangerous time".

He said Mr Bruton had a responsibility to take the lead in creating a viable political alternative to conflict: "This must include defending the rights of nationalists in the north. But it also means standing up to the British Government and promoting the Irish national interest."

He said Mr Bruton knew republicans were committed to peace. He added that it was a matter of record that "every commitment which I and Sinn Fein made, we kept".

Mr Adams said he would resist the temptation of a "knee jerk" response to Mr Bruton's remarks. He said there was a need to avoid "the politics of the easy soundbite".

☐ Sinn Fein was still welcome at the Northern Ireland peace talks — provided a "credible ceasefire" was restored, Northern Ireland Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew said yesterday. Sir Patrick said he wanted Sinn Fein to join the talks, which he said were making progress.

Casual worker wins right to sick pay

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY
SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A CARE worker won an important victory for casual employees when the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday that she was entitled to statutory sick pay. Employment lawyers predicted that larger employers and the Department of Social Security would face huge bills as thousands of workers in industries such as catering and retail gained the right to £56-a-week benefit for up to six months.

Sally Brown, 45, worked with the mentally ill for nine months until she injured her neck in 1992. Her employer, the Granta Housing Society, refused to give her statutory sick pay, arguing that she had been employed on a daily contract for four or five days a week.

Its decision was upheld by an independent adjudicator at the Department of Social Security but her case was taken up by the Child Poverty Action Group.Cherie Booth, QC, in written argument to the court, stated: "If liability to pay statutory sick pay could be avoided in circumstances such as these Parliament's intentions will have been thwarted."

Lord Justice Nourse said that because Mrs Brown, from Cambridge, had continuity of employment for more than three months, her contract had become indefinite under the Employment Protection Act. Her claim for £1,200 sick pay, covering almost six months, will return to the Social Security Appeals Tribunal with a direction to reconsider.

David Thomas, legal officer for the Child Poverty Action Group, said: "Sally was to all intents and purposes a permanent employee and the court has confirmed that her employers should not be able to escape their obligations simply by using the device of a series of daily contracts." Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of Unison, said: "This is a breakthrough and has important implications for casual, low-paid workers who have been excluded from this basic entitlement."

William Garnett, head of the employment division of the solicitors Bates Wells & Braithwaite, said: "It has serious consequences."

Small firms can reclaim most of their bill for statutory sick pay from the Department of Social Security but bigger companies usually have to find the money themselves. David Cockburn, chairman of the Employment Lawyers' Association, said: "The courts are being vigilant to stop employers being able to evade their responsibilities by a clever form of words."

Mrs Brown said: "I am pleased that I have been able to set a precedent for other people in my position."

Clarke routs critics

Continued from page 1

explode with a string of disloyal speeches and that Mr Clarke would take a hammering. Mr Clarke's success in turning the tables was more than they dared to expect.

His apparent confidence about the election succeeded where others had failed in rousing a conference which had a pessimistic air. He said: "My Budget will not just be set with a few months in mind. We all have many years of Conservative government in mind. We are going to govern much longer than the next few months."

Mr Clarke argued that he had to create the climate for continued economic success. Repeating his argument that Tory voters would not be duped by unsustainable tax cuts, Mr Clarke said: "My Budget must create the climate for an honest election campaign in which we play fair and straight with the public — and win five more years." The speech was a reminder to Conservative MPs that Mr Clarke still regards himself as a contender in a future leadership race.

The key conference announcement was Gillian Shephard's plans to improve school discipline, parental choice and standards. Laws giving schools greater powers to discipline and expel unruly pupils were promised by the Education Secretary.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Porn channel to defy ban by Bottomley

A pornographic satellite channel banned by Virginia Bottomley yesterday will continue to beam hardcore sex films to Britain. Roger Kinsbourg, president of *Rendezvous*, said that subscribers will still be served by the channel from its base near Paris and hinted at ways to evade the ban on the sale of its smart cards in Britain.

The 8,000 customers will carry on receiving the link until their cards expire. Then there is nothing to stop them telephoning a satellite dealer across the Channel and buying a new one by credit card. New customers would need only a modicum of technical knowledge to buy a suitable decoder and motorised satellite dish.

Mr Kinsbourg, who claimed the Heritage Secretary's ban was an attack on personal freedom, said: "People who want this type of service will find a way to get it." The action would not put him out of business. Conference speech, page 7

Church Army appeal

The Church Army has asked all of its 50 clergy to resign to clarify the position of the laity. The move has devastated officers who have given years of service to the army, which was founded in the last century to improve links between the Church and the working classes. Many take great pride in their commissioned status, a mark of their willingess to devote themselves to the poor and needy for little financial reward. Army authorities believe confusion has arisen because a priest's ministry is seen as mainly pastoral, while a lay worker in the army is primarily an evangelist.

Tory admits fraud plan

A Tory parliamentary candidate mass-produced fake till receipts from Marks & Spencer in a bizarre attempt to get even with the High Street chain after a planning row, a court was told. John Evans, 45, who had been selected as candidate for Sherwood, Nottingham, planned to swap the receipts for goods. Reading Crown Court was told that Evans, the former leader of Hastings council, blamed M&S for shops being built on the proposed site of a cricket ground. Evans, who withdrew his candidancy after he was charged, was given a six-month suspended sentence.

Jewish donor appeal

A fertility clinic is appealing for Jewish women to donate eggs in an attempt to help childless couples to conceive without having to sacrifice their cultural identity. The appeal by the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, has been welcomed by infertile Jewish women but has reopened a dispute about whether egg donation contravenes religious law. According to today's *Jewish Chronicle*, the anonymity of donors has raised concerns among rabbis that a child conceived in this way might unknowingly commit incest in later life. The Jewish community numbers only 330,000.

Dunblane fund theft

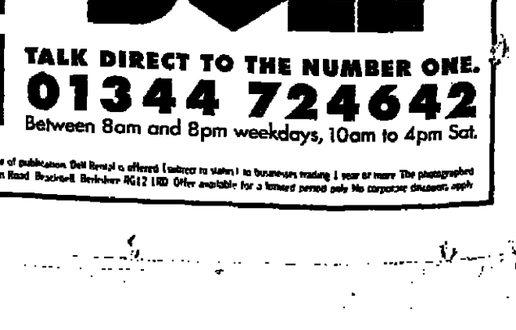
Patrick Southgate, 49, a former pub landlord from Poplar, east London, was remanded in custody pending sentence by Southwark Crown Court yesterday after being found guilty of stealing £600 he helped to raise for Dunblane victims and their families. He also stole £1,400 bar takings. Southgate went on the run to Spain, but gave himself up to police 11 days later after the thefts received wide media coverage. While admitting a charge of stealing the pub cash, 18-stone Southgate denied one accusing him of taking the appeal fund money. He will be sentenced on November 1.

Brief guide to security

The Townswomen's Guild has developed a new weapon in the fight against crime: Y-fronts. In a campaign highlighting women's personal safety, the movement advises single women to hang a pair of Y-fronts on the washing line to deter any threat from would-be attackers. The advice, contained in a booklet which will be available to all 80,000 members, also urges women to ask male friends to record their answerphone messages, avoid sunbathing topless in certain countries and refuse to stay in hotels where there is a connecting door between bedrooms.

Time and tide wait

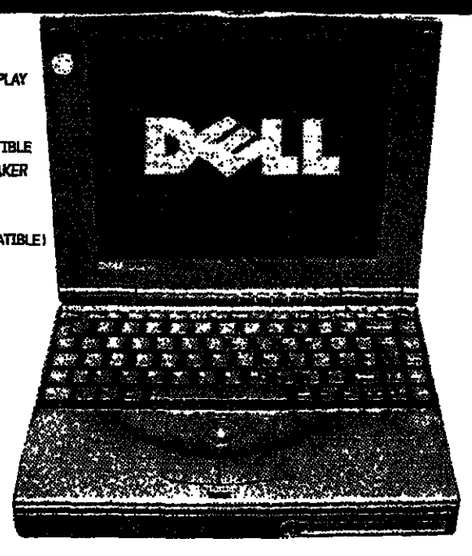
A message in a bottle thrown into the sea more than 80 years ago has set a world record for the longest time between sender and finder. John Forman, 40, a fisherman from Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, spotted the bottle among his catch about 35 miles east of the Shetland Islands. The "message" was a pre-paid postcard from government scientists. The bottle had been thrown overboard at 3am on April 21, 1914, as part of an experiment to measure seabed tidal currents. It had travelled five miles. Mr Forman was paid the standard £1 reward by the Scottish Office.



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Christmas kiss led to sex with French student, driver says

BY TIM JONES

A LORRY driver yesterday claimed a young French student flirted with him and consented to sex within two hours of accepting a lift.

Stuart Morgan, 37, said he started laughing and joking with Celine Figard soon after she got into the cab. He had picked her up at Chieveley services in Berkshire on December 19 last year.

Mr Morgan, of Poole, Dorset, denies murdering Mlle Figard and dumping her body behind a hedge after keeping it in the lorry cab for nearly ten days. He told a jury at Worcester Crown Court that he had agreed to give Mlle Figard, 19, a lift to Southampton after she told him she was travelling to spend Christmas with her cousin at a hotel in Fordingbridge, Hampshire.

Within minutes, he said, they began exchanging personal details. "We were laughing and joking about, flirting in general. I have the character to flirt happily and playfully with women and we were flirting together.

"I was taking the mickey out of some of the words she was using and laughing over her. Because I couldn't hear her, she was leaning over the central console, touching my arms and legs."

He said Mlle Figard told him of substances she had smoked. "We just carried on



Mlle Figard: she agreed to sex, said Morgan

laughing and messing about." After driving for less than an hour, he said he stopped at a lay-by to fix the lights on his trailer and decided to put on his kettle to make a cup of tea which he told her would cost "a kiss for Christmas". She complied and "it carried on from there" he said. "I removed my underclothes and she undressed herself. She took off all her clothes except for her brassière.

"There was a considerable amount of foreplay and messing around and then we had sexual intercourse. The whole thing lasted for an hour or an hour and a quarter."

Mr Morgan, who admitted having sex with other women in his cab, denied using any force against Mlle Figard. He said that he dropped her off in Southampton. "We kissed and she went off. I caused no injury to her whatever."

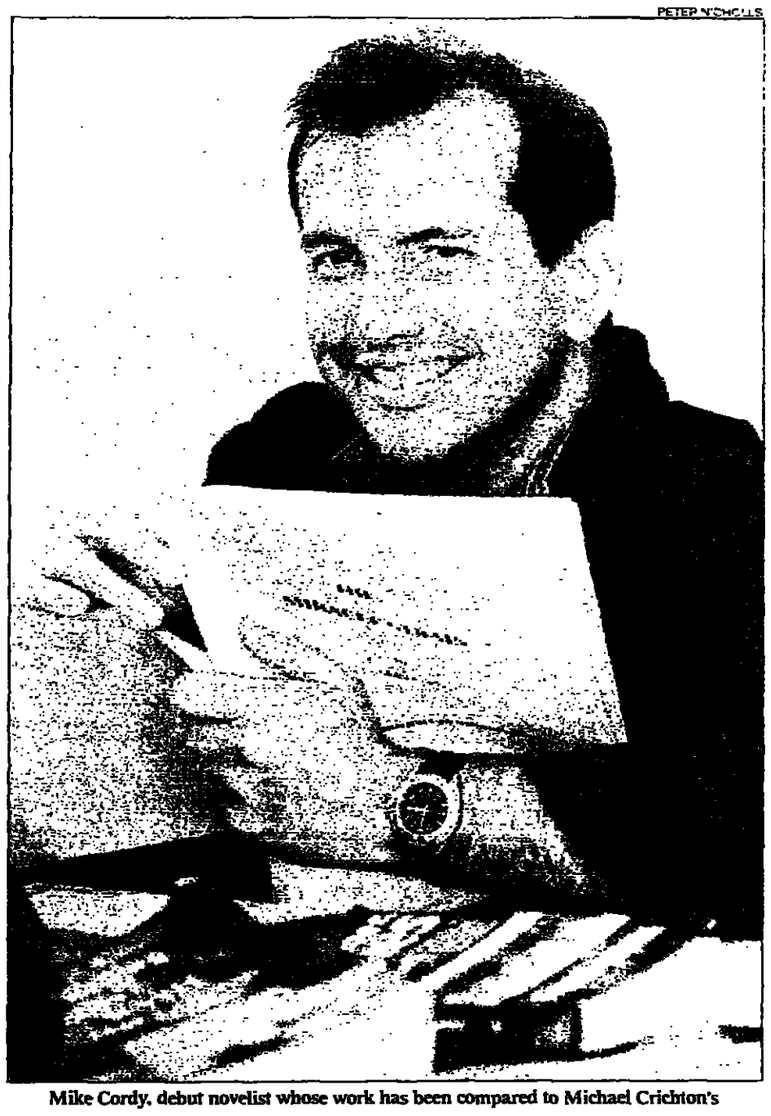
He claimed that a spade, an axe and hacksaw blades he bought in Bude, Cornwall, three days later were to dig him out of snow, for repairs, and for tree-cutting. They were not to be used, he said, to dismember Mlle Figard's body before burying it.

He claimed he had altered the tachograph because he was frightened. "I didn't want my wife to find out I was having sex with other women and reports in the press were making things even more horrendous. I am only human and I panicked. I knew I hadn't caused any offence and I was petrified."

Mr Morgan told the jury he had shaved off the beard he had when he picked up Mlle Figard because he had accidentally singed part of it on Christmas Day while flicking a cigarette lighter. He said that blood on a mattress from his cab had come from another driver and underwear found after the body was dumped did not resemble that worn by Mlle Figard.

Mr Morgan told the jury he had bought two bottles of a rare champagne not sold in Britain and of the type known to have been carried by Mlle Figard from a lorry driver and had arranged for them to be given as Christmas presents to two women garage workers.

The case continues.



PETER NICHOLLS

Mike Cordy, debut novelist whose work has been compared to Michael Crichton's

Writer creates £1m Miracle with first book

BY JASON COWLEY

A MAN who gave up his £70,000-a-year job as a marketing executive to become a writer is on the way to becoming a millionaire before selling one copy of his first novel.

At the Frankfurt Book Fair last week, *The Miracle Strain* by Michael Cordy, 35, was sold to the British publisher Bantam Press for £150,000. Sales from continental houses have already reached £170,000. Bidding has begun for the American rights and is expected to top $1 million.

The Miracle Strain is a satire set in the near future, said to be similar to Michael Crichton's techno-thrillers. It concerns a bio-technologist who invents a "genescope", an instrument that decodes the genetic software of man. He survives an assassination attempt by a millennial cult that believes Carter is a demonic figure asserting the supremacy of science over religion. Hollywood studios are vying for the film rights.

The Miracle Strain was discovered by the literary agent Patrick Walsh, who looked at it only as a favour to a friend. It arrived on his desk in early September just as he was about to go on holiday to Corsica: "I really didn't want to read the book. We get stacks of unsolicited manuscripts. Nevertheless, I put it in my bag and began reading it on the beach. I couldn't believe how good it was: I instantly regretted being on holiday. I was terrified that another agent would get hold of it."

In fact Mr Cordy, with no contacts in the book business, had not sent it elsewhere. A former marketing executive in the drinks industry, he had only begun writing fiction two years ago. He rose most days at 6am to work on his novel, but because of the constraints of his job quickly became exhausted. In the end, supported by his wife, Jenny, who also works in marketing, he resigned in October 1994 to devote himself to writing.

"It was a terrifying gamble," Mr Cordy said yesterday. "When I told my boss that I was leaving he said, 'I can't argue with that: it's a bit like wanting to become a priest.' Although I did an English degree at Leicester University, I had no idea that I would succeed as a writer. There were times when my wife and I sat down and wondered what the hell we had done, especially as we had put having children on hold and much of what I produced in the first nine months of writing was rubbish."

Other debutants whose books were recently discovered by agents include Nicholas Evans, whose *The Horse Whisperer* earned £3 million in rights sales, and the former banker Michael Ridpath, whose *Free to Trade* became a bestseller after being taken up by Blake Friedmann.

Police watched 'as hitman fired at his victim'

BY ADRIAN LEE

POLICE marksmen disguised as gas workers shot a contract killer moments after he fired three bullets into his intended victim, a court was told yesterday. Michael Boyle, the hitman, and Anthony Brindle, his victim, were part of a gangland feud involving criminals in Dublin, Northern Ireland and London, it was alleged. There had already been several deaths.

The two officers, hidden in a British Gas van at Rotherhithe, southeast London, had watched as Mr Boyle fired three times and then chased his injured victim, "intent on finishing him off", Nigel Sweeney, for the prosecution, told the Old Bailey. Fearing for Mr Brindle's life, and their own, the policemen fired 14 times at Mr Boyle. Both men survived. Mr Boyle, 48, from Dublin, denies attempting to murder Mr Brindle, 34, in September 1995, and possessing two handguns.

It was alleged that Mr Boyle, disguised in a wig, drove in a stolen van to the small square where his victim lived and parked ten yards from Mr Brindle's car. He removed the van's wing mirror, opened the driver's window and then hid in the back behind a makeshift curtain, said Mr Sweeney, giving himself a field of fire.

But, as Mr Boyle lay in wait with a Browning semi-automatic pistol and a Magnum, police were also watching, having learnt of the plot from Irish colleagues. They hoped to wait until Mr Boyle showed his hand, then intervene.

But events did not go according to plan and Mr Boyle opened fire from inside the van, hitting Mr Brindle in the elbow, chest and thighs. He staggered back to his house with Mr Boyle in pursuit, Mr Sweeney said.

The officers got out of their gas van and challenged Mr Boyle but he did not stop and they fired from rifles. He was hit in the elbow, chest, shoulder blades and left heel.

The court was told that Mr Boyle had been a police informer in Ireland, using the alias Pious O'Callaghan. He told police that Peter Daly, the friend of a well-known Dublin criminal, George Mitchell, was having trouble with the Brindle family. It was proposed to send people to London to deal with the problem.

Patrick and George Brindle, brothers of Anthony, had been selected as other likely targets. Boyle said the Brindle family had a gang from Northern Ireland on their side in the feud. The trial continues.



Brindle: said to be part of bloody gangland feud

Cricketer shaken by holiday shootings

BY EMMA WILKINS

GRAEME HICK, the England cricketer, and his family cut short a holiday in Marbella after a couple in a neighbouring villa were shot dead in a gangland killing.

Mr Hick, 30, who bats for Worcestershire, and his wife Jackie, 33, were returning from dining out to celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary when they heard screams and shots.

The couple's first thought was for their children Jordan, 1, and Lauren, 4, who were being looked after by the family nanny. Stephen Evans, Mr Hick's father-in-law, said: "They didn't move, they stayed inside and kept the doors locked. Although they didn't see anything, they were very frightened." The couple, who were halfway through their two-week holiday, decided to return home to Worcester immediately. Mr Evans said that his daughter was still upset by the shooting. "She is home and safe but very cut up about what happened and quite shaken."

According to Spanish newspaper reports, a 45-year-old Frenchman was shot 20 times and his 37-year-old wife was killed by a single blast. Their 20-year-old daughter escaped through a bedroom window, while another man was taken to hospital with gunshot wounds.

The killings were the latest in a series of violent incidents in the Las Lomas area of Marbella. Within the past month two other people, including a policeman, have been shot dead and another policeman seriously injured.

Just when you thought it was safe to swim in Oxfordshire

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE beast may not have been quite as voracious as Jaws, but it knew what it fancied when it saw Stephen Rees splash past. The monster pike's cold, prehistoric eyes flickered for only a moment before it launched itself at the unfortunate swimmer like a torpedo out of a tube.

The razor-sharp teeth of the most fearsome of freshwater fish sank into Mr Rees's arm. There was a short struggle between man and leviathan before the 20lb, 4ft creature thought better of trying to drag its victim to the bottom of the River Cherwell. Even so, the attack left the 31-year-old plumber from North Aston, Oxfordshire, in need of hospital treatment.

After having eight stitches inserted in his wounded limb, and a tetanus jab, Mr Rees said: "I couldn't believe it. I suddenly felt something on my arm and thought I'd caught it on branches. When I looked down I saw this pike dart away. The blood was pouring from my arm and the water was going red."

Mr Rees, a father of two and an angler, has returned to the spot near Somerton with rod and line to exact his revenge, but has yet to get a bite. "I'm determined to catch him."

James Holgate, editor of *Pike and Predator* magazine, said: "It's quite rare for a pike to bite a human. They normally go for small fish and the occasional duckling."



The pike: a fearsome freshwater predator

However, a pike recently grabbed a pet terrier paddling in a lake at Woking, Surrey, and dragged it under water before the dog managed to extricate itself. In Konakovo, Russia, an angler who landed a 10lb specimen tried to kiss it. The fish sank its teeth into his nose and doctors had to prise it off, even after it had been decapitated.

The largest pike caught in Britain was a 46lb 13oz specimen captured in 1992 at Llandegfedd Reservoir in South Wales. In Ireland, however, a 53lb monster was caught in Lough Conn in 1920.

The pike's ancestors can be traced back more than 20 million years. Fossils show that, like the shark, it has hardly changed — a case of Nature getting it right first time.

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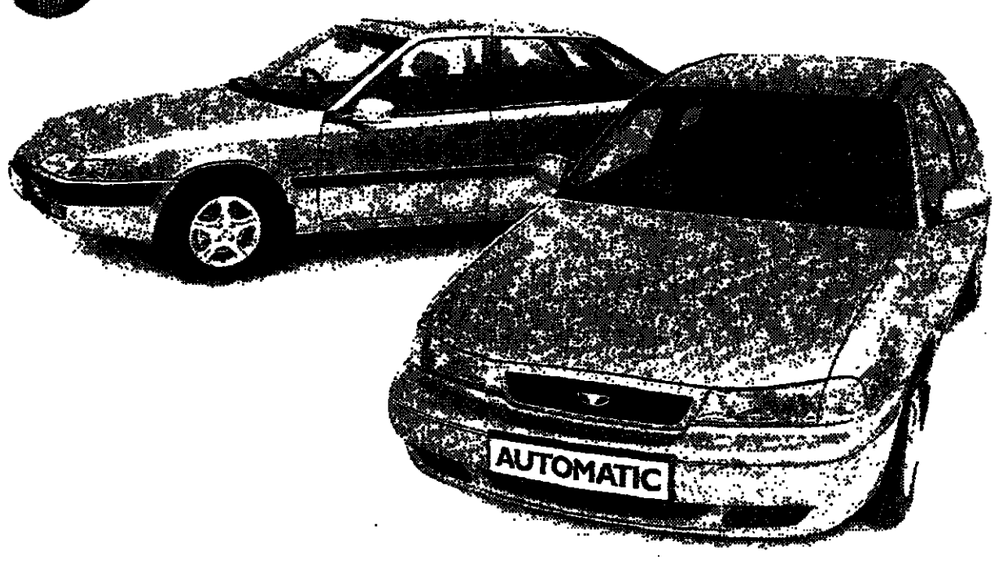
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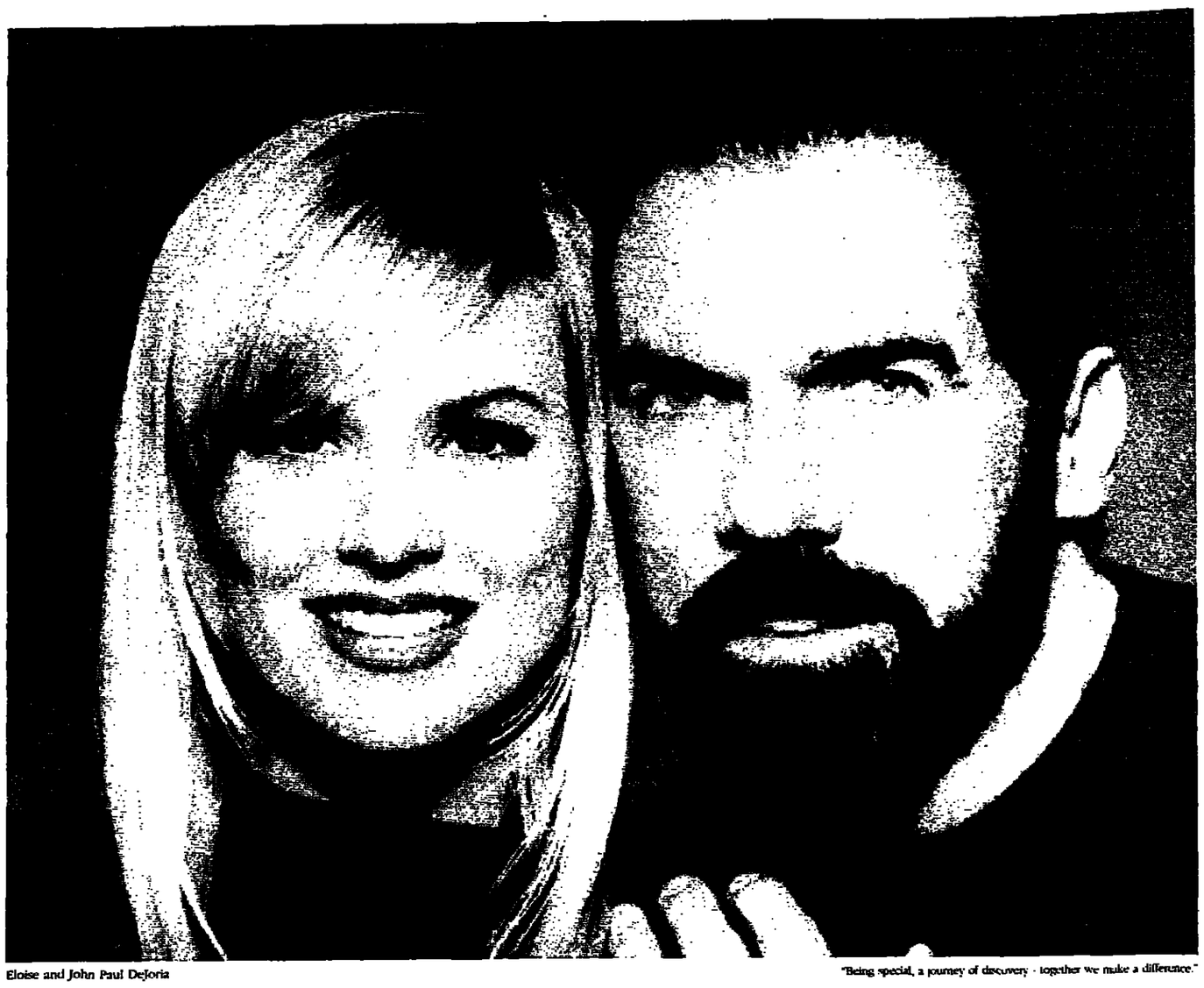
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Search for contacts after student, 18, dies from rabies

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

DOCTORS appealed yesterday for contacts of a student who died from rabies to come forward for vaccination. Nurses and known friends of the 18-year-old Nigerian have already been treated.

The man died in the tropical diseases unit of a London isolation hospital on Sunday night after being admitted with a high fever, spasms and an inability to swallow his saliva. He had been ill for three days before entering the accident and emergency department of Whittington Hospital, Highgate, north London, on Saturday night.

He was transferred to Coppetts Wood isolation hospital at Muswell Hill, north London, on Sunday afternoon but died several hours later after suffering a spasm. It is thought that the student, who has not been named, contracted the virus after being bitten by an animal on a visit to Nigeria.

Doctors originally diagnosed malaria and considered rabies only after he died. After an urgent meeting on Tuesday, they started to trace doctors and relatives who had been in close contact with him, to offer immunisation and counselling.

Dr Michael Kelsey, a microbiology consultant at the Whittington hospital, said health chiefs had tracked down 23 people who may have been at risk of infection. "It was vital for us to trace all the people he was in contact with since he returned from Nigeria," he said. "They had been at risk because some of them had had contact with his saliva."

Dr Kelsey said the student had been suffering prior to his hospital admission. "He had been unwell, according to our records, for three days prior to his admission. He was agitated, he didn't want to swallow his own saliva and was unable to spit it out.

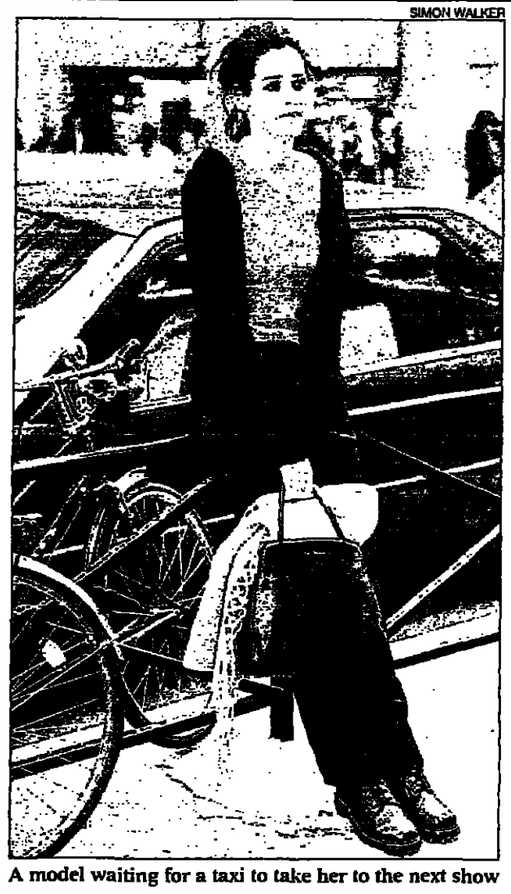
"Rabies can kill within days and we think he was in the final stages of the disease. He had malaria, we know that for a fact, because we diagnosed that on his admission."

A post-mortem examination was carried out yesterday and the results confirmed the diagnosis. The Health Department said that the risk of transmitting the virus through saliva was small.

Dr Anthony Bryceson, a consultant physician at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, London, said: "There are no records of rabies transmission within a hospital. The risk to staff is theoretical. However, rabies works so rapidly it is almost immediate. It is a virus that infects the immune system and will within a couple of days get to work attacking the system. It literally wipes out the brain."

The last known rabies death in Britain, in 1988, was that of a Scunthorpe engineer bitten by a dog while working in Bangladesh.

SIMON WALKER



A model waiting for a taxi to take her to the next show

Designers pick far-out venues

FROM GRACE BRADBERRY IN PARIS

FASHION designers are plunging Paris Fashion Week into chaos as they search for ever more atmospheric venues in which to hold their shows.

Geographical dispersion is the main problem, with designers abandoning the Carrousel du Louvre, purpose-built for fashion shows. Yesterday a reluctant Christian Lacroix returned to the Louvre, explaining that he wanted "to make life simpler for everyone", particularly photographers.

Among the highlights of his spring-summer collection were long "balloon" skirts in African-inspired prints and 18th-century style jackets in striped taffeta.

Rifat Ozbek, a former British Designer of the Year, held his show at the Moulin Rouge, while Martine Sitbon and Jean Paul Gaultier chose the Elysée Montmartre, another cabaret theatre. The most bizarre venue was the warehouse in an industrial suburb used by the Belgian designer Dries Van Noten.

Plaque honours civilian victims of 20th century

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Queen unveiled a memorial at Westminster Abbey yesterday to the millions of civilians who have suffered and died from the inhumanity of the 20th century.

Victims of violence from around the world joined her as she and the Duke of Edinburgh laid a wreath of white flowers and sprigs of rosemary: a 14-year-old Bosnian boy blinded and without hands, survivors of Auschwitz, Belsen and the Soviet gulags, bereaved Protestants and Roman Catholics from Northern Ireland, a Christian Palestinian refugee, a survivor of genocide in Rwanda, a South African oppressed by apartheid and a teacher from Dunblane primary school.

The new memorial was the idea of the Very Rev Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, who is about to retire and who for several years has wanted a memorial to civilian victims as a counterpoint to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier inside the abbey's west door.

A five-foot circle of green Cumberland slate, the new plaque was created by the Irish sculptor Ken Thompson and bears two simple inscriptions. "Remember all innocent victims of violence, oppression, war" is set in the middle: around the edge is a further text: "All you who pass by, is it nothing to you."

The stone has been set in the pavement immediately outside the abbey's west door but still within the railings. Its position is intended to allow people of all faiths to see it without having to enter a church. An alternative proposal to erect a statue depicting a fleeing mother and child was turned down by planning officials at Westminster City Council, who feared it might become a focus for protest.



The new memorial

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Medical staff face risk of infection

The spit of a rabid animal carries the deadly virus that is transmitted to the next victim through a bite. The virus travels from the wound to the patient's central nervous system where it causes damage to the brain, inducing insanity, or to the spinal cord, bringing on paralysis.

Medical staff who have been dealing with the Nigerian patient who died from rabies will be offered prophylactic injections. These vaccinations are advisable not because the patient has bitten them — although crazed sufferers have been known to bite — but because the spit alone of a rabid human or animal can infect others.

Infection occurs when the virus in the spit comes into contact with the mucus membrane — the eyes or lips for instance — or an open wound. There have even been cases when the disease has been spread merely by inhalation.

A patient who develops rabies is likely to have been infected one to two months earlier. But the incubation period is sometimes only a few days: the medical staff who have been offered immunisation in this case would be well advised not to delay their acceptance. The speedier the injection the greater the cover.

The disease can be divided into furious rabies, in which the dog, or other infected animal, becomes restless and savage, and dumb rabies in which damage to the spinal cord is greater than to the brain, bringing on paralysis.

When humans catch rabies the first signs are usually inflammation, pain and irritation at the site of the bite, followed by flu-type symptoms including depression and irritability. The alternative name hydrophobia is derived from the effect that drinking or even touching water has on the patient: it causes terror and agonising spasms in the muscles used for swallowing.

It is often said that death is inevitable in rabies but with modern intensive care lives can be saved. Treatment includes extensive and immediate wound cleaning followed by immunisation.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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Shephard pledges more discipline in schools

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GILLIAN SHEPHARD yesterday announced plans to tighten school discipline and improve parental choice in the run-up to the general election.

New laws giving schools greater powers to discipline and suspend unruly pupils will feature prominently in a wide-ranging Education Bill. Teachers will be allowed to give pupils detention without seeking parental permission, while head teachers will be able to suspend pupils for up to 45 days and refuse places to children expelled from two other schools.

Opinion polls suggest that public confidence in government education policy is slipping; ministers admit privately that policies allowing greater parental power have weakened teachers' ability to discipline pupils.

Mrs Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, said that measures to increase selection and assisted places would highlight clear differences between the two main parties and denounced Labour's "hypocrisy and double standards" over its opposition to selection. She said grant-maintained schools would be allowed to select 50 per cent of their pupils, specialist schools 30 per cent, and all schools 20 per cent, up from the current 15 per cent.

At last week's Labour Party conference, Tony Blair underlined the importance of education as a campaign issue when he told delegates that the three most important policies were "education, education and education". He ridiculed Conservative plans to restore school discipline. "They have had 17 years to do this, it is not much good just saying it a few months before an election. Labour has been putting forward proposals to deal with discipline for the last few years."

On the issue of assisted places at private schools, which Labour has promised to abolish, Mrs Shephard announced that the scheme would be extended to allow all preparatory schools to apply for assisted places help, rather than only those attached to secondary schools. The change, which she said would add only a fraction to the current £117 million assisted places budget, is expected to benefit girls' preparatory schools in particular.

The Education Secretary emphasised the importance of education as an electoral issue. "This country and her children are too important to hand over to the confusion, the hypocrisy and the double standards which are the hallmarks of new Labour," she said. "That is why this coming election is so important. It is the task of Conservatives to make sure that the ambitions and aspirations of all Britain can be fulfilled."

She also confirmed that in December the Government will publish a White Paper setting out plans to strengthen qualifications for post-16 education, give pupils between 14 and 16 more opportunity to gain work experience and extend work-based training.

In the debate earlier Elizabeth Smith, a teacher and prospective parliamentary candidate for Edinburgh South, said it was essential to extend the assisted places scheme, which allowed 40,000 children from low-income families to share the opportunities on offer at some of Britain's best schools.

Wearing her employment hat, Mrs Shephard announced that a pilot job training scheme is to be extended to all parts of Britain. The Project Work programme, aimed at the long-term unemployed, will be extended to cover up to 100,000 people aged between 18 and 50 who have been on the dole for over two years. The scheme offers 13 weeks of help in searching for jobs followed by 13 weeks of compulsory work experience. Refusal to attend results in loss of benefit.

She told the conference that early results from the two pilot schemes, covering up to 8,000 people on Humberside and in Kent, had been "impressive". She said the new schemes would be up and running as early as possible next year and that private sector employers would be allowed to deliver the whole project, not only the work experience aspect as at present.

ANDRE CAMARA



Gillian Shephard, who attacked Labour "confusion, hypocrisy and double standards"

IN BRIEF

'Defection' proves a damp squib

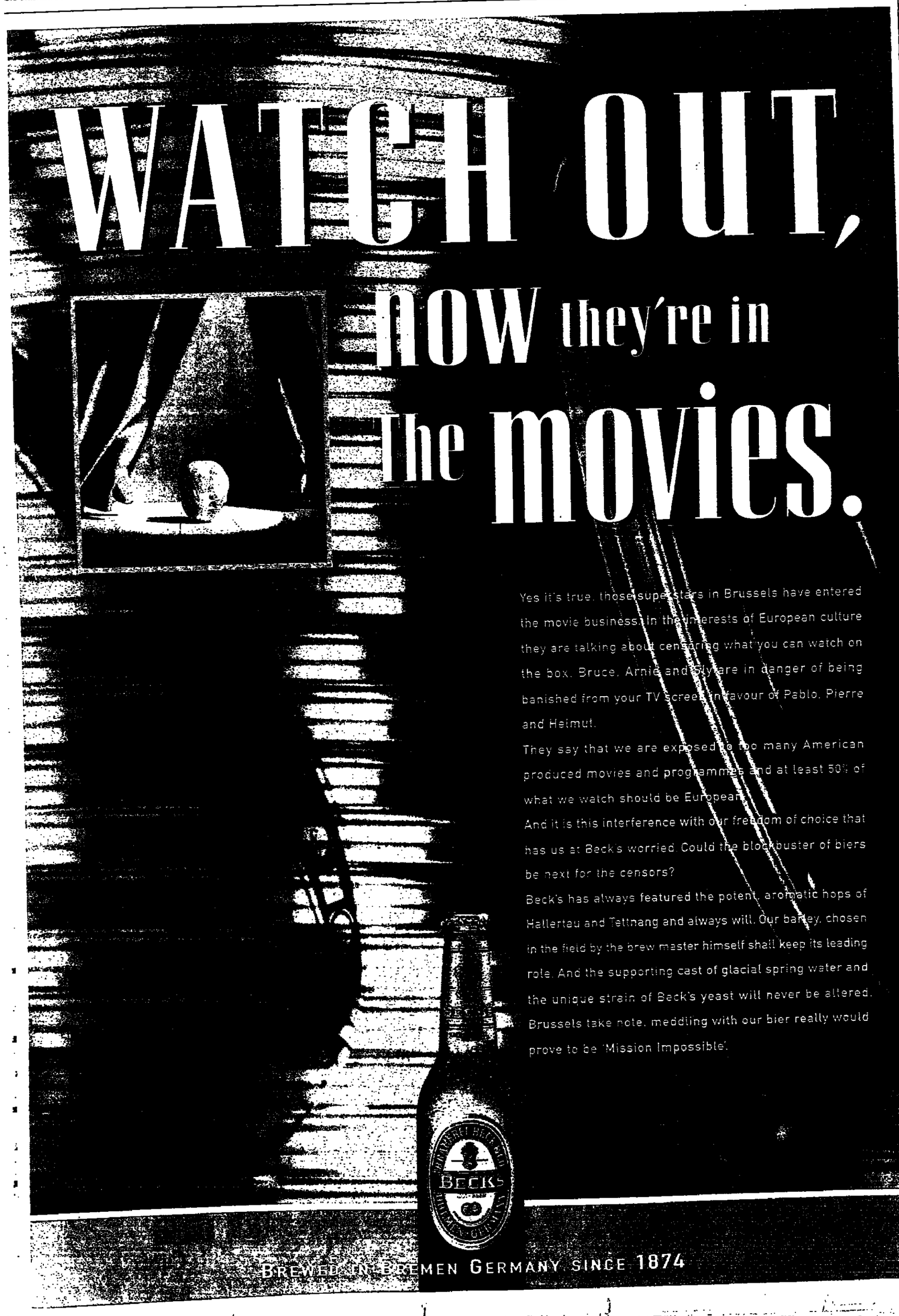
After days of rumour that the Tories had scored a coup with the defection of a Labour official, the truth proved something of an anticlimax. When Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, unveiled the "former aide to the Labour leadership", it emerged that he had never even been a member of the Labour Party. Maria Forgione, 26, had worked as a researcher for Keith Vaz, Labour MP for Leicester East, for 18 months. The caterer, who is single and lives in Somerset, joined Yeovil Conservatives a year ago.

Forsyth attack

Michael Forsyth told a fringe meeting that nationalism was "patriotism gone to seed" and that separatists were the most extreme enemies of the Scottish Conservative party. The SNP was the "loose cannon" of Scottish politics and the most left-wing party in Europe.

Today's business

Presentation of constituency awards; fundraising appeal by Lord Parkinson; the Prime Minister's speech.



Literary Major makes a bid for relative success

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

NORMA started it by writing a book about opera. Terry Major-Ball joined in with a witty tome about gnomes and now his younger brother John is finally following in the family's literary footsteps.

In *The Spectator* yesterday the Prime Minister published a diary he kept during the Tory conference, which confirms that Mr Major really is safe, cosy and wears Val Doonican jumpers.

The rare insight into Mr Major's week is full of anecdotes about Norma, girls and football. Written in a Pooterish style, he uses words such as wicked, exciting and fun and lots of exclamation marks. It makes *Private Eye*'s Secret Diary look amateurish.

Mr Major admits that he first attended a conference aged 16¾ and got hooked on politics after Iain Macleod talked about "the nicer side of human nature".

His favourite moment of the week wasn't the kiss and make-up with Baroness Thatcher or the applause as he finished his question and answer love-in but meeting the England soccer team. "Gazza", as Mr Major calls him, came in a checked suit which "you could play draughts on". But he had competition from Frank Bruno, who was "wearing a luminous blazer that put a Caribbean sky to shame."

He also "exclusively" reveals that his decision to miss dinner at last weekend's Euro Summit in Dublin was not a snub, as reported, but because he wanted to celebrate his 26th wedding anniversary with Norma. "So the Sunday press proclaimed it a snub! In fact, it was no such thing ... Given the choice between Norma or 15 men, Norma won hands down," he writes.

"Norma came with me on tour as she usually does. This year the press has invented 'Stormin' Norma, the Secret Weapon!' (No invention, this. It has been true for years.) And so Norma attracted more cameras than I did. This is the first time for years the media has got its visual priorities right."

He also makes it clear that far from discussing Eurosceptic "bastards" with his Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, they spend their time cracking jokes. During a dull moment at the summit in Dublin Mr Rifkind had reminded him that a Labour spokeswoman had promised more promiscuity under a Labour government." 'In my day', said Malcolm, 'reds were UNDER the bed'. He's getting old, I think. Good conference joke, though."



He also explains that he had to use all his negotiating skills to stop a Cabinet split in Bournemouth between three ministers over gags they use at conference. Two colleagues told him they were planning splendid jokes. "The problem was , it was the same joke," Mr Major says. "And I sat down and crossed out the same joke for Friday!"

Mrs Major yesterday said that she was proud of her husband's new literary talents but he had a long way to go before he caught up with her two books and his brother's column for a national newspaper.

Simple answer on Christian theme

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR is a Christian who prays "in all circumstances" and has firm views on the moral qualities required of MPs.

The Prime Minister, in a collection of interviews with politicians by Roy McCloughry, director of the Kingdom Trust, says: "I don't pretend to understand all of the complex parts of Christian theology, but I simply accept it." Mr Major argues that faith "adds life, reason and context to a set of rules".

Mr Major draws a link between the decline in church attendance and a rise in social ills, although he rejects the suggestion that religious belief is on the decline. He says church leaders should address the "spiritual poverty" in society and calls for a greater partnership between Church and State.

Mr Major describes how his moral commitments are drawn largely from his parents, "who instilled in me from an early age a love of our country, the difference between right and wrong and the responsibilities of the strong to care for the weak".

He also criticises politicians who "say one thing and do another" in their private life. "We all have our faults, but mistakes which involve a betrayal of trust are especially worrying," he says. Mr Major says his back to basics concept indicated that society had lost confidence in the "permissive, politically correct, value-free society" rooted in the 1960s.

In the same book, published next week, Clare Short, Labour spokeswoman on overseas development, says that, although influenced by her Roman Catholic childhood, she is not a Christian. She says the Church irritates her and she has given up on it. If political leaders whose belief is sincere make Christianity fashionable, people would pretend to be Christians. "There are lots of people who pose as Christians, who I don't think are."

☐ *Belief in Politics* (Hodder & Stoughton: £7.99)

Right suffers crucial setback in influencing election strategy

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Tory Right has suffered a setback this week. It is probably only temporary, but it is nonetheless crucial in determining Tory strategy for the pre-election period. Ahead of the conference, the Right had argued that an early commitment to rule out British participation in a single currency and big tax cuts could be election winners for the Tories. Both demands have been rejected this week, and the Cabinet sceptics have acquiesced, suppressing their doubts (in public) and saving their ammunition until after the election.

That was the real significance of Kenneth Clarke's conference triumph. He was cheered more for his commanding style and authority than for expressing home truths, on both taxes and Europe, which most in the audience reject. The leadership has skilfully exploited the widespread desire within the party for unity to isolate any dissenters. Michael Heseltine even attacked Sir James Goldsmith by name. No wonder, Tom Spencer, the strongly pro-European chairman of the Tory MEPs, sounded upbeat yesterday.

Most significant has been Mr Clarke's success, highlighted by the public display of support from a relieved John Major. That should dampen, if not end, the sniping against him. The attacks were always absurd. The forced departure of Mr Clarke would have wrecked the Tories' slim re-election chances and could even have brought down the Government. The unequivocal stand taken by Mr Major and Malcolm Rifkind has now settled policy on the single currency, though the Cabinet sceptics will probably try to reopen the issue in the new year.

Mr Clarke also lowered expectations about the Budget. Talk of big tax cuts has always been a fantasy of the economically illiterate. The public would anyway be dubious. Such demands ignore the state of the economy and of public finances. The recent strong growth in living standards and worries over inflation mean that the next move in fiscal and monetary policy should be a tightening, not a loosening. Moreover, while the "Green Budget" produced by the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs is positive about the medium-term outlook for public borrowing, it warns against sizeable tax cuts. That is because existing public spending plans are already very tight, involving much lower rates of growth than have been achieved for long in the past.

With the Cabinet's EDX committee on public spending about to start intensive discussions about next year's plans, Mr Clarke was right to warn that the priorities are to keep borrowing coming down, ensure tight control of spending and properly fund key services; "only then, will I assess the room for any tax cuts this November". At a later fringe meeting, William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary, warned that "there are never any easy savings and there is always plenty of pressure to spend more". The lower inflation rate permit some reduction in expenditure totals, but this is likely to be small overall, allowing just some cosmetic tax cuts.

Mr Clarke set far-reaching goals for the next parliament: a 20p basic rate of income tax, reducing and then abolishing inheritance and capital gains tax, keeping inflation below 2½ per cent and getting and keeping public spending below 40 per cent of national income. He described these as "guiding stars", but with no timetable. Mr Waldegrave was more ambitious in saying that once spending had been reduced below 40 per cent, "in due course we should look further at a lower target". That would permit real reductions in the tax burden, as opposed to pre-election gestures. But it would require a fundamental review of spending plans — switching some financing of health, social security and education to the private sector. None of that is possible in a pre-election period. Mr Clarke deserved his applause, if only for his candour and realism in emphasising the limits on what can be achieved in the short term.

PETER RIDDELL

Clarke challenged to show gains of economic recovery

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH CLARKE was urged yesterday to back his optimistic view of the economy with tax cuts in next month's Budget.

Tories at the party conference agreed with his assessment of the recovery and his reluctance to offer the electorate tax cuts as a bribe. But Christopher Fraser, prospective parliamentary candidate for Mid Dorset and North Poole, said that the Government should demonstrate that its policies had worked. "How about showing people soon — perhaps in November?"

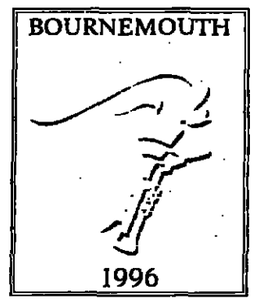
David Cameron, the candidate for Stafford and a former special adviser to Norman Lamont, said he realised that there was only limited room for tax cuts in the Budget. But these should be focused on those who had been hit hardest in the recession, and particularly the low-paid. They should go to "small businesses where people took money out of their own pockets to put into companies to keep them going" and where people kept wages down to keep their businesses afloat.

Mr Clarke said that the key to tax cuts was to control public spending and reduce public borrowing. Setting the scene for the Budget, he said he would keep borrowing coming down and ensure tight control of spending while properly funding key services such as hospitals, schools and the police.

"And when I have done those things, and only then, I will assess the room for any tax cuts this November. As I said to conference last year — and I say it again — for Conservatives, tax cuts must be for keeps.

"My Budget this year will not just be set with a few months in mind. We all have many years of Conservative government in mind. We are going to govern much longer than the next few months."

Mr Clarke argued that he had to create the climate for continued economic success over the next five years. Repeating his argument that Tory voters would not be duped by unsustainable tax cuts, he said: "My Budget in



November must create the climate for an honest election campaign in which we play fair and straight with the public — and win five more years.

"At the coming election, tax is going to be a big issue. The question sensible people will ask is not who has cut taxes in any one year, but who will cut taxes over many years."

Mr Clarke urged Tories to go out and fight the next election on the economy. If Labour fought the election on the economy it would lose. "If we fight the election on the economy, we will win. And with a Tory government back in power, the economy will do even better."

The average family would be £700 better off this year — after inflation and after tax — than at the time of the last election, he said. Unemployment had fallen by nearly 900,000. The country was enjoying the longest run of low inflation for 50 years and the lowest mortgage rates for 30 years.

"Between now and the election, our task is to bring home to the British people that this prosperity does not just fall from trees. It will not come from Blair's smile or Brown's bluster. Only windbags believe in windfalls," he said to laughter.

But he brought the house down when he added: "Gordon Brown bases his policies on the Dolly Parton school of economics: an unbelievable figure, blown out of all proportion, with no visible means of support."

Turning to the next five years, Mr Clarke promised to cut the basic rate of income tax to 20p in the pound. "Already a quarter of all taxpayers only pay tax at 20p, eventually 20p will be the basic rate for everyone." He also promised to cut then abolish inheritance and capital gains tax, and get spending down to below 40 per cent of the economy.

"Give us a fifth term and Britain can and will become the most successful economy in Europe," he said.

Mr Clarke, whose resignation has been demanded by the Euro-sceptics, called for the party to unite behind the Prime Minister's line on economic and monetary union. "All Conservatives agree on far more things in the European Union than we ever debate." To loud applause he added: "We all support a partnership of nations, and we are all hostile — I am hostile — to any United States of Europe."

He insisted that now that monetary union was on the agenda, Britain needed to be at the negotiating table. "The Prime Minister and I intend to be there talking about it, influencing it, and defending the interests of the British economy."

The Cabinet's policy on monetary union was part of its policy on the economy. It had been repeated by John Major last week and yesterday by Malcolm Rifkind. "I repeat the same messsage today. So let us spend the next six months uniting behind that policy, attacking the Labour Party, talking about the economy and winning the next election."

Cheers all round

Conference may have fallen for the charm of Kenneth Clarke, but its old darling, Michael Heseltine, won the day's contest for the longest applause. Mr Clarke registered 94 decibels and kept the audience on its feet for four minutes 20 seconds. Mr Heseltine, though, trumped this by a further ten seconds at the same decibel level. Michael Portillo trailed in a low-key third with a subdued 1min 45sec at a mere 90d.

CHRIS HARRIS



John Major joins the applause for Michael Heseltine — gesturing for a fifth term for the Tories — after his speech

Heseltine rallies renegade Tories

BY GRAHAM DUFFILL

MICHAEL HESELTINE rounded on Tory renegades yesterday, warning them that they would earn the party's "utter contempt" if they handed power to Labour. He also warned the Referendum Party, in a clear attack on Sir James Goldsmith, not to let Labour in.

The speech showed that the Deputy Prime Minister had lost none of his touch as a conference performer. It ended with him basking in applause and flourishing Churchillian V for victory signs.

Mr Heseltine questioned Sir James's motives for targeting its candidates in key Conservative constituencies. "What do you think you will gain by putting your candidates where it will hurt the Conservatives the most? Do you really want Labour to win? Have you counted the cost of the minimum wage, of the social contract?

"I say this to you. You're lucky. As you commute between the luxury of your hacienda in Mexico, your chateau in France and your palazzo in Venice, just remember the rest of us. We would have to stay here. We would have to suffer under them."

Conservative Party policy has previously been to deny that the Referendum Party would have any effect on its vote. But Mr Heseltine has been increasingly angered at the prospect that the party of a millionaire financier who lives in Paris could cost the Conservatives some seats, if not the election. Mr Heseltine is himself a millionaire and as one insider said: "He felt that if anyone could attack Goldsmith and McAlpine [Lord McAlpine, the former Tory Party treasurer, who has defected to the Referendum Party] for using their wealth to avoid the consequences of their actions it was him."

But Mr Heseltine directed most of his speech to attacking the Labour Party: "What a transformation! Old Labour — the barmy army. New Labour — the smarmy army." Mr Heseltine mocked the Labour party for producing five key pledges in a five-day conference: "Five soundbites, and they think they're fit to govern for five years. No facts, no details, no costs. Soundbites substituted for substance. Public relations masquerading as public concern."

However, in a policy announcement, the Deputy Prime Minister echoed Mr Blair's promise that Labour would create a network of knowledge through computers for all schools.

Mr Heseltine said that the £300 million of lottery proceeds currently spent on projects for the millennium will be ploughed into a new information and communication technology fund. He promised a new range of computers in schools and access to information and training "of every sort to all who want it."

Cranborne warns Blair on reform

BY ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE LEADER of the House of Lords said yesterday that he was "not opposed in principle" to reform of the British constitution. But Viscount Cranborne gave warning that any changes to the upper chamber made by a Labour government would have to be matched by reform of the House of Commons.

In an article in *The Times* today and in a speech at the Tory conference in Bournemouth yesterday, Lord Cranborne said that both Houses could look antiquated if they did not adapt.

John Major made it clear earlier this year that he does not want to see any "tinkering" with the House of Lords and the constitution.

But Lord Cranborne says in *The Times*: "To suggest that we should preserve the constitution rather as English Heritage preserves a Grade I-listed monument would be unwise. Some people badly want to reform the Lords further. I am not opposed to this in principle."

He continues: "Any reform of the House of Lords will increase its authority at the expense of the House of Commons. You cannot consider the two houses separately. They are complementary and interdependent."

Viscount Cranborne, page 20

Junior 'OBE' scheme planned

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LEADING figures from sport, the arts and industry were urged yesterday to rally round a new "junior OBE" scheme to reward young people's contributions to the community.

Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, challenged celebrities and business leaders to support the Young Achievers scheme, which is based on proposals by Martyn Lewis, the television newscaster, who has criticised the media for concentrating on bad news and failing to praise positive work, particularly by the young.

The scheme, to be launched next year, would offer awards for outstanding achievement in the arts, sport, business or charity by those under 30. There are likely to be several grades of award depending on the achievement.

Mrs Bottomley said yesterday that the scheme, backed enthusiastically by John Major, would "promote and honour the achievements of our young". The Royal Family has also been involved in discussions.

Mrs Bottomley also announced plans for a National reading awards scheme, supervised by the novelist Joanna Trollope, in an effort to improve reading standards. The Minister said parents had to set a clearer example to their children: "Let's set ourselves a target: just one night a week at least. Turn off the box and bring out the books."



Bottomley: on song with new awards

Mrs Bottomley broke off during the middle of her keynote speech to sing a song ridiculing Labour Leader Tony Blair. She told representatives she had come across a little-known Gilbert and Sullivan song. To the tune of *The Ruler of the Queen's Navy*, from *HMS Pinafore*, Mrs Bottomley sang, unaccompanied and somewhat tunelessly, several long stanzas. To sustained applause, she ended: "Just smile through your teeth and avoid policy, and you all could be rulers of the Labour Party."

Portillo appeals for party unity

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL PORTILLO yesterday appealed for Tory MPs to demonstrate "unity, unity and unity" to ensure that John Major wins the next general election.

The Defence Secretary, in a widely praised speech, said that only the Conservatives had the will to govern and the determination to win. "But I tell this conference: in order to win we need three extra policies — unity, unity and unity."

The speech, which was in contrast to his outburst against the European Union last year, reinforced Mr Portillo's reputation as a conference favourite and a future leadership contender. His performance delighted Major loyalists with its attack on Labour and robust defence of Government policies.

Britain was sure about its place in Europe, he said: "a proud and independent nation state". He condemned Labour's "sneering politics of envy". Mr Major's leadership over Bosnia and Iraq was contrasted with the untested Tony Blair: "True grit, not soft soap. Sound judgment, not soundbites." Mr Portillo defended the Union and mocked the Liberal Democrats, who, he said, would hand control of the armed forces to the EU.

While a Tory government enhanced Britain's fighting capabilities, Labour leftwingers demanded the abolition of the nuclear deterrent and a drastic reduction in defence spending. "The Labour leadership typically responds by pandering to them. They offer our forces the bleak prospect of a defence review. Their idea of fighting them on the beaches is to send Glenda Jackson to Benidorm."

Mr Portillo brought loud cheers when he mocked Mr Blair for comparing himself to Margaret Thatcher. "An astonishing pretension. Dream on, Mr Blair, dream on. And you are no John Major, either."

A critical note was sounded by Bryan Johnston, prospective parliamentary candidate for Stockton North. He was applauded when he attacked the sale of married servicemen's quarters. "We must ensure that the estates remain exclusively for the services. Local councils cannot be allowed to mix local housing in the quarter areas."

He criticised cuts in military manpower. "The Armed Forces are silent critics. They therefore need our special attention. If we are complacent and do not heed their concerns, then the consequences could be dire."



Independent schools decry 'two faces' of Harman

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

AN ADVERTISEMENT showing a two-faced Harriet Harman is launching a campaign by independent schools against Opposition policies on education.

Friends of Independent Schools, whose membership has grown to 50,000 in two years, drew on a £300,000 fighting fund to take the full-page advert in national newspapers. It was placed in the name of Parental Choice Matters, a cover name for the FIS which is run from the London offices of the Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS), the main promotional organisation for private schools.

The advert, echoing the Conservative ploy of distorting the faces of political opponents, shows the Shadow Social Security Secretary voicing her support for Labour plans from her left mouth and calling for "the proper choice for your child" from the right. Earlier this year she sent her son to a grant-maintained grammar school. The advertisement says: "We agree with the Harriet Harman on the right". It will appear in *The Times* tomorrow.

The main target of the campaign is the pledge by both Labour and the Liberal Democrats to abolish the assisted places scheme, a £120,000 government subsidy to help less well-off families to pay independent school fees. It also says that Labour threatens the schools' charitable status which, if removed, would force up fees.

Friends of Independent Schools said it was not simply saying "vote Conservative" at the general election and denied it was effectively an extension of the party. "We are not asking you to change your vote. We are asking you to help us to make new Labour and the Lib Dems reconsider their policies on independent schools."

The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, which represents 250 independent schools, said earlier this month that its dialogue with Labour had achieved little.

Parents at 140 independent schools are asked to pay £3 to the pressure group every time they settle their annual school fees. Campaign decisions are made by the FIS full-time political officer and confirmed by a board, which includes head teachers, parents and school governors.

A spokesman for the Friends of Independent Schools said the advert was not intended as an attack on Ms Harman. "We are saying she made a courageous decision and we support her decision as a parent. We are saying the Labour Party cannot face both ways on this issue."

Labour said that neither the party nor Ms Harman was two-faced on its policies for independent schools.

A spokesman for David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, said: "We have said we will phase out the assisted places scheme in order to ensure 500,000 infants are in class of 30 or under."



JULIAN HERBERT

Gypsy caravan: the Spanish dancer Joaquín Cortés, who blends flamenco with rock, leading his troupe yesterday at the Albert Hall, London, where his show runs until Sunday

Bishops ask Pope to change Irish holidays into holy days

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Irish Roman Catholic Church has appealed to the Pope to move traditional Irish holy days to Sunday because many people are using the days for shopping rather than praying.

There are eight "holy days of obligation" in the Irish calendar on which schools and offices close so that people can go to Mass to celebrate the feast day.

However, the tradition has gradually fallen into disuse. The Irish Bishops' Conference has written to the Congregation for Divine Worship — the Vatican Body with responsibility for feast days — proposing that Ireland should move its holy days in line with the rest of Europe and the United States.

The Church wants to move two "Holy Days of Obligation" from Thursday to Sunday. It is also seeking alterations to four more of the eight compulsory days of worship.

Willy Walsh, Bishop of Killaloe, Co Clare, said only half his congregation attended Mass on holy days: "Work practices have changed. It was very easy in the past when we were an agricultural country to stop work on holy days and go to Mass. It has become very difficult for the working public to do that. Most factories want their workers on holy days."

"In the past it was socially unacceptable in Ireland to miss Mass. That is no longer the case," he added.

The bishops propose to move Ascension Day and Corpus Christi from Thursday to the following Sunday. St Patrick's Day on March 17 and Christmas Day on will remain obligatory Mass days, regardless of what day they fall on.

Councillors damn £6bn canal for North with faint praise

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

A PLAN to spend £6 billion building a canal across the north of England was given short shrift yesterday by the first group of political leaders to study it.

The idea to link Carlisle with Newcastle upon Tyne was discussed only briefly by the executive of the North of England Assembly. It decided the proposal was worth noting but far less important than pressing on with its ten-year campaign to win money for building dual carriageways along three roads through the area.

The Western Water Highway scheme, devised by Derek Russell, a retired Manchester engineer, would carry ships of up to 15,000 tonnes through the Pennines. He believes it would provide up to 300,000 jobs and reduce pollution from traffic.

After the meeting, John McCormack, chairman of the assembly which represents councils throughout the North, said they were not making a judgment yet. "What we have done is reiterate what we see as our priorities for the region," he said. "Our other priorities concern the region's rail network, improving public transport and an integrated transport system, which have been devastated by deregulation.

"This does not mean we are against the Western Water Highway, but we want the emphasis to be on the immediate problems which can be dealt with in the short-term before talking about something more grandiose and for the next century."

The project is due to be discussed by Cumbria County Council on October 24.

Leading article and Letters, page 21

'Rising costs lead to more expulsions'

BY OUR EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

DIFFICULT pupils are increasingly likely to be expelled because schools cannot afford the amount of time and money they demand, a report published yesterday concluded.

Pupils were expelled for violent behaviour in just a quarter of cases and "concern for reputation and position in league tables" played a part in the spiralling number of exclusions, the report said.

The study, by the Institute of Education in London, disclosed that the number of pupils expelled each year has jumped from fewer than 3,000 in 1990-91 to more than 12,000 in 1994-95. Dr David Gillborn, a reader in sociology at the institute and author of the report, called for an urgent review of both permanent and temporary exclusion. "Exclusion is meant to be used only in the most extreme cases," he said. "In reality, it is used in a wider and more ill-defined range of circumstances."

He said the consequences for the child could be enormous. Fewer than one third of expelled youngsters returned to mainstream education, with four in ten being taught at home at great expense to the local authority.

Conference report, pages 6, 7

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Act passed in 1606 introduced £10 penalty for company performing 'naughty words'

Heavy hand of censor fell on Elizabethan theatre

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A LETTER dated 1589, which proposes that all comedies and tragedies should be censored by a committee before being performed in public, is to be sold at auction.

The letter, one of the earliest documents in the history of stage censorship, is from the Privy Council to the Archbishop of Canterbury. None signed by the council was known to have survived, and it is estimated to fetch £50,000.

While the Puritans complained about the tirade of bawdy language on the Elizabethan stage, the Privy Council was more worried about religious and political subversion. On November 12 they requested Archbishop John Whitgift to establish a committee to oversee censorship of plays in London.

The council notes: "There hathe growne some inconvenience by the commyon plaies and enterludes, played and exercised in and about the Cyttie of London, in that the players doe take upon them to handle in their playes certen matters of divinitie and of State unfitt to be suffred." They suggested that the committee "examine" the plays before they were allowed to be presented to the public, and that the Archbishop conferred with the Master of the Revels and the Lord Mayor. They proposed that the committee should "geve their allowance of suche as they shall thincke meet to be played, and to forbydd the rest".

Peter Beal, manuscripts expert at Sotheby's, which will be selling the letter on December 17 and 18, said: "It's the most important document relating to the Elizabethan stage that has been discovered this century."

It is difficult to identify the exact plays concerned because many hundreds from around that time have been lost. Dr Beal suggested that Christopher Marlowe's anti-Christian *Tamburlaine the Great*, staged in 1587-88, may have exacerbated the situation.



Queen Elizabeth I: doubted publicly

Stanley Wells, director of the Shakespeare Institute of Birmingham University and general editor of the Oxford complete works published in 1986, said that 1589 marked the beginning of Shakespeare's career, although scholars are not entirely certain when he started writing. Marlowe and Robert Greene were more prominent then.

He noted the letter related to matters of divinity and state — religious and political censorship. In 1606 an Act was passed to prevent profanity on the stage. A penalty of £10 was introduced for a company performing "naughty words", with half going to the informer. "If you went and told the Privy Council about naughty words, you would get £5 for your trouble."

Concern about profanity, he said, was clearly reflected in changes made to some of Shakespeare's plays. "Zounds", short for "God's wounds", was considered a particularly offensive word — "one of the most ferocious you could use". It appears in an early text of *Othello* before being changed to "away". The word "God" was often changed to "heaven", he said.

Professor Wells added: "The most spectacular example of political censorship is in *Henry IV Part One*, where we know that Sir John Falstaff was originally called Sir John Oldcastle. John Oldcastle was an ancestor of Lord Cobham, who was Lord Chancellor of the day. Shakespeare originally called him Oldcastle and had to change it to Falstaff."

The Elizabethan censorship committee was a precursor of the Lord Chamberlain's office which, until 1968, had powers of censorship over every play that appeared on the British stage. The Lord Chamberlain was given parliamentary authority to censor plays in an Act of 1737.

David Starkey, a leading historian at the London School of Economics, drew parallels between the late 1580s and this century: "The period was one of great crisis, roughly the equivalent of 1941, a period of massive disturbance in foreign relations, fear of the fifth column at home and everyone feeling very edgy indeed. It was also the beginning of semi-publicly expressed doubts about the Queen. Rather like now, the Queen was ageing fast and people were wondering whether she was still in touch."

MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY



The character Falstaff, in *Henry IV Part One*, was the result of censorship

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gas kills sewerage workers

Two workmen died yesterday after being overcome by gas fumes as they worked in an underground sewerage system in Swansea. The men collapsed after entering a roadside inspection chamber. Colleagues who attempted to revive them were also overcome and five were taken to hospital with breathing difficulties.

Paramedics in protective suits who dragged the unconscious men out of the chamber were treated for the effects of fumes as a precaution. Health and safety inspectors have begun an investigation into the accident.

Guilt revealed

A Salvation Army youth leader who molested the son and daughter of a colleague 19 years ago was jailed for two years. Frank Lewis, 42, a married Oldham shop worker, admitted indecent assault and five indecency charges.

Duchess's jewels

Jewellery that belonged to the Grand Duchess Elizabeth of Russia, Queen Victoria's granddaughter who married Tsar Alexander III's brother and was killed by Bolsheviks in 1918, sold for £94,850 at Sotheby's, London.

Clapton fined

Eric Clapton was fined £210 by Guildford magistrates, Surrey, for speeding in his Ferrari at 61mph on a 30mph stretch of the A25. Clapton, 51, of Regent's Park, is recording in Los Angeles and pleaded guilty through his barrister.

Lottery millions

The National Lottery, which reaches its hundredth draw tomorrow, has created 280 millionaires. Figures from Camelot, the lottery operator, show that there have been 123,517,395 winning tickets for over £3 billion in prize money.

Left powerless

A new power station at Torness near Edinburgh cannot come on line because thieves damaged a final, vital component after they stole the van delivering it. They tried to dismantle the £80,000 oxygen injector to sell as scrap.

Dog honoured

A golden retriever is to be made an honorary life vice-president of Hutton Cranswick Cricket Club in Yorkshire for having sniffed out at least 50 balls, saving the club £1,250. Purdey, 12, is also to be the club's mascot.

CORRECTION

Roy Lewis (obituary, yesterday) was born on November 6, 1913, and was 82 when he died.

Tree study roots out fake fiddles

BY NIGEL HAWKES

ENGINEERS at Cambridge have developed a way of identifying when a violin dealer is on the fiddle. From tree-rings in the pine from which the front of the violin is made, they can pinpoint when the tree was growing, separating a 19th-century fake from a Stradivarius.

Dr Bill Fitzgerald and Anthony Huggett, a research student, use a mathematical and statistical method to get around difficulties that defeated previous efforts to use the method on violins. A complete record of the tree-rings in pine has been established by archaeologists, from which the date of a piece of pine can be worked out by matching its rings to the chronology.

"The problem is that any particular piece of wood is unlikely to match perfectly, because local conditions affect the rings," Dr Fitzgerald says. His method gets round this by using statistical methods to give a probable date when the tree was growing.

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Hormone therapy doubles the risk of blood clots

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN undergoing hormone replacement therapy at least double their risk of developing a blood clot in the legs.

Three studies conducted in Britain and America have revealed a two to four times increase in the risk of deep-vein thrombosis in women undergoing either oestrogen-only therapy or the combined oestrogen-progestagen treatment.

In absolute terms the increase in risk is small. Among 10,000 women undergoing hormone replacement therapy (HRT), the results suggest two would have a thrombosis they would not otherwise have had.

By 2000, one in three post-menopausal women are predicted to be undergoing HRT but the studies, published in *The Lancet*, show that it is not a risk-free treatment. It has been known for some time that oestrogen in the contraceptive pill is linked with an increased risk of thrombosis: the researchers reasoned the same could be true of HRT.

In the first study, by scientists at Oxford University, all women admitted to hospitals in Oxford with deep-vein thrombosis *in the 23 months* up to December 1994 were screened and compared with women admitted for other reasons. The results, based on 81 cases, showed that after *correcting for other factors*, women on HRT were 3½ times more likely to have had a thrombosis. A similar study conducted in Boston, Massachusetts, based on 42 cases, found similar results.

A third study of 123 cases of blood clots in the lungs, a potentially fatal complication of deep-vein thrombosis, conducted by the Boston Collaborative Drug Surveillance Program, Lexington, found an increase in risk for those on HRT of 2.1 times, or one extra case for every 20,000 women undergoing the therapy.

In a press release on the findings, *The Lancet* is careful not to exaggerate the increased risk, noting that it would lead to two extra cases of thrombosis in 10,000 women. Reports last year that third-generation, low-dose contraceptive pills were associated with a doubled risk of deep-vein thrombosis triggered a scare that led the Government to recommend thousands of women to change their brand of Pill.

The risk of deep-vein thrombosis rises with age, so a doubling of the risk in menopausal women has a greater effect than in younger women of childbearing age.

In a commentary on the findings, two experts from Leiden University Hospital in The Netherlands say they "remind us that HRT is a drug therapy with, albeit rare, side-effects". HRT helps to control the unpleasant symptoms of the menopause in the short term and in the long term is believed to protect against the bone-thinning disease osteoporosis and heart disease, but may involve a slight increase in breast cancer.

The Dutch experts, Jan Vandenbroucke and Frans Helmerhorst, say: "Prescribing for purely preventive purposes, *without clinical indications*, should be underpinned by strong evidence of benefit."

They say that women who *have a family history of deep-vein* thrombosis, are grossly overweight or suffer illness *which means they are often* immobile, should consider whether the risk is justified.

Iron boosts brain power

IRON pills can boost memory and brain power in teenage girls, according to researchers. One in seven girls in America has low iron levels, mainly caused by the loss of blood during menstruation. A study of 78 girls with low levels showed that after eight weeks treatment with iron supplements their mental performance improved.

Dr Ann Bruner and colleagues at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, who publish their results in *The Lancet*, say: "These findings suggest that *iron supplementation* improves some aspects of cognitive functioning."

STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA



Mandy Allwood appearing on Talk Radio yesterday. She denied ignoring the advice of medical experts

Mandy Allwood 'still wants family'

BY JOANNA BALE

MANDY ALLWOOD yesterday defended her failed attempt to give birth to eight babies and said she still hoped to start a family with her partner.

Miss Allwood, who miscarried the eight foetuses, denied that she went against medical advice, despite being told by doctors that she should have had *six aborted to improve the chances of a* successful birth.

In an interview with the London station Talk Radio, she said: "*It seems we* were being told one thing in the consulting rooms and the press were saying something else. We did not go against medical advice. And there was no guarantee that I would be able to keep two babies alive. In my own mind I *knew that I could do it. I knew the risks* and was prepared to take them, and with the support of Paul [her partner Paul Hudson], we carried on.

"If I was pregnant with eight babies again I would do it again. There is a risk *with any pregnancy.*" She added that she and her partner were taking it day by day. "We are planning to start a family as *soon as possible. At the end of the day we* want a baby."

Ms Allwood, 31, who appeared on the show with Mr Hudson, disclosed that they would be writing a book with Professor Kypros Nicolaides, her consultant gynaecologist. Ms Allwood and Mr Hudson are believed to have already made £250,000 out of deals with the *News of the World* and various television stations and magazines. She has donated some of her earnings to research into fertility treatment and pregnancy.

Ms Allwood became pregnant with eight babies after ignoring her doctor's advice not to have unprotected sexual *intercourse during a vital stage of her* fertility treatment. The funerals will be held next week in south London.

Parents 'not flouting law over son's operation'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE parents of a British baby *who doctors say will die unless* he has a liver transplant yesterday denied that they had flouted the law by taking him abroad and so preventing him having the surgery.

The Official Solicitor, acting as the 15-month-old child's guardian, is seeking a ruling in the Court of Appeal that surgeons should operate to *give the boy a new liver. But* the parents, who are both healthcare professionals, have *refused to allow the child to* have the operation, claiming it would extend his life only *temporarily and might lead to* greater suffering for him.

Today the father of the boy told a news agency in the country where the family is now living, which cannot be divulged for legal reasons: "We had always planned to come here. The child was sick — we decided against the transplant a long, long time ago. We organised to come to here before the child was born."

Despite his illness, the boy — known as T for legal reasons — is not in great pain and lives a relatively normal life. The current legal challenge is being brought by T's parents after a High Court judge in Britain ruled earlier this year that T should have the transplant. If the Court of Appeal in London agrees, T's parents will have 21 days to return their son. But T's father said: "With an appeal, the order of the first court became irrelevant until the second judgment so we're not actually breaking the law."

Mince meets quality

SHOPPERS can now check *the quality of British minced* beef by looking for the "Minced Beef Quality Mark" *stamped on individual packets* (Russell Jenkins writes). Packs carrying the standard are guaranteed to be free of offal, made only from regular cuts and produced from cattle aged under 30 months.

The British Meat Information service, anxious to restore confidence in beef, is drawing shoppers' attention to several "best buys" from leading supermarkets. Sainsbury's rump steak is reduced by £3.31 per kg to £6.08. At Asda quick-fry steak is selling at £3.69 per kg. *Promotions* include:

WEEKEND SHOPPING

Asda: super chicken £4.49 per 2.2kg; English Bramley apples 38p a lb; San Marco pizza £1.69.

Budgens: pork sausages £1.28 a lb; sausage, bacon and egg quiche 99p; fresh haddock cutlets £2.61 a lb; Cox's apples 49p a lb.

Co-op: fresh rolled shoulder of pork £2.99 per kg; Lyons hot and spicy prawns £1.49 per 170g; crispy breaded cod portions £1.49 per 283g.

Harrods: lamb navarin with rosemary £7.99 per 400g; smoked chickens £6.49 a kg; crab cakes £1.75 each; smoked goose £3.49 per 100kg.

Iceland: smoked ham and mushroom pizza £1.49; mandarin cheesecake £1.49 per 500g; Birds Eye beef burgers (20) £3.45; tikka-filled chicken £2.99; cut beans 99p per 907g; Birds Eye sweet and sour chicken platter £1.99 per 365g.

Marks and Spencer: bangers and mash £1.69; Kenmore whisky, £11.99; two cream doughnuts 89p; low fat sweet and sour chicken and rice £2.39; large fruit salad £1.99.

Morrisons: turkey escalope £1.29; chicken and mushroom pies 99p; Gold Blend £4.99; Coca Cola (15pk) £3.29; pork chops £1.49 a lb.

Safeway: topside silverside beef and top rump £5.99 to £4.29 a kg; pork sausages 69p per 454g; Scottish mild coloured Cheddar £1.59 a lb; chicken tikka masala £1.99 per 340g.

Selfridges: potted herbs 99p each; yellow courgettes £1.89 a lb; chestnuts £1.99 a lb; minted lamb chops from £3.49.

Somerfield: Italia grapes 39p a lb; loose parsnips 49p a lb; sirloin steak £4.30 a lb; fresh tomato and basil soup 49p per 450g; chocolate mousse £1.05.

Waitrose: Romano potatoes 20p a lb; spaghetti squash 29p a lb; fresh poussin £2.39 per 800g; own brand tea bags £1.69 per 160.

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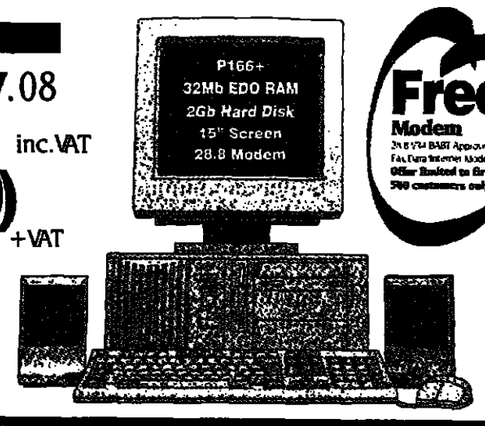
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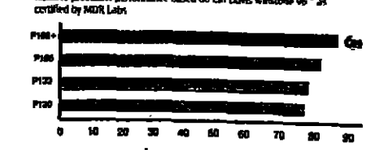
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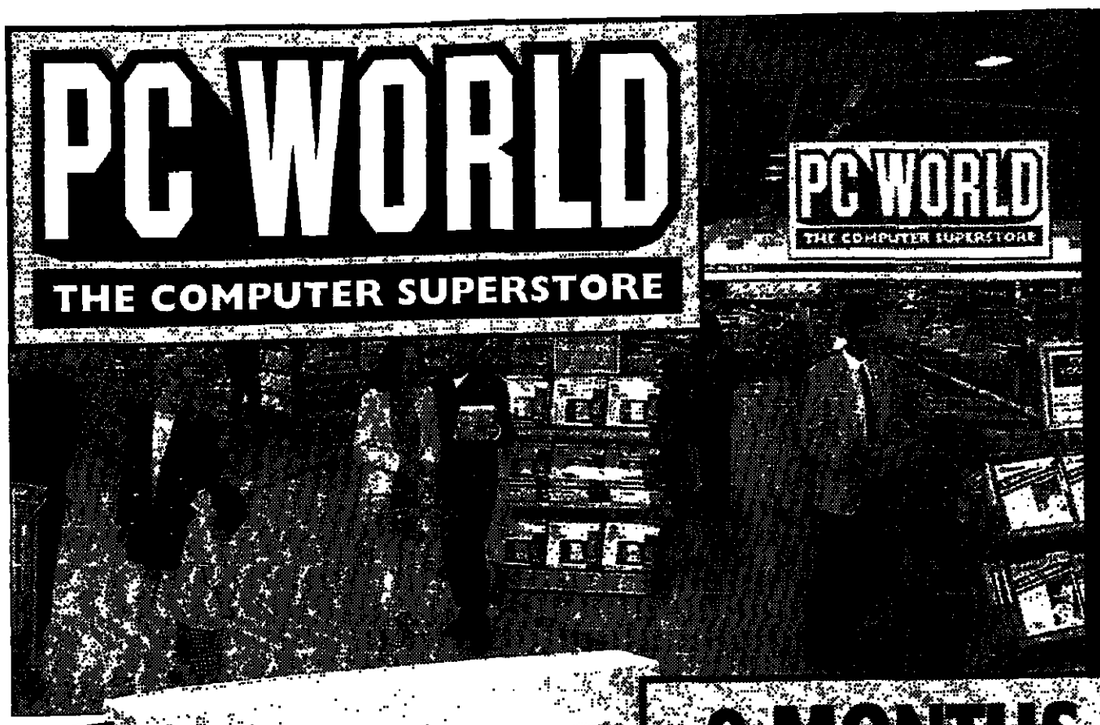
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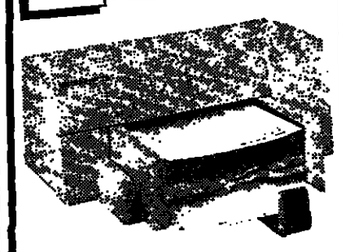
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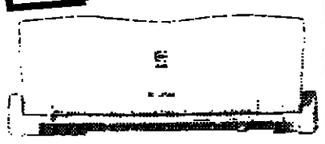
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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — FRIDAY OCTOBER 11 1996

Jardine Fleming dropped from Asia umbrella fund

By Noel Fung

JARDINE FLEMING, Hong Kong's oldest investment bank, has suffered a further humiliating blow after being dropped as a leading fund manager in a new unit trust launch.

The fund manager is being excluded from a new UK investment scheme after Imro, the fund managers' watchdog, found that one of its most senior traders was making secret deals to benefit himself and to the detriment of clients. It was fined £700,000.

In addition, Jardine Fleming paid £12 million in compensation and sacked Colin Armstrong, the trader at the centre of the affair.

Now Portfolio Fund Management has made a last-minute change to drop Fleming's funds from its Asia umbrella fund, Portfolio Asia Fund.

After conducting extensive interviews with fund managers in Hong Kong and Singapore the house has decided to drop Fleming's funds.

Portfolio Asia Fund is a unit trust fund of funds aimed at offering investors access to most Asian markets outside Japan through investing in 25 funds from 13 leading groups in the region.

After paying visits to 29 fund managers in Hong Kong and 11 more in Singapore, Portfolio decided to take Flemings off the list.

The decision was taken despite the fact that the new fund will expose between 35 per cent to 45 per cent of its geographic weightings to Hong Kong stocks. Jardine Fleming, a joint venture between the UK private merchant bank Robert Fleming and Jardine Matheson, is the largest fund house in the territory.

Richard Timberlake, Portfolio's investment director, said the decision was indirectly related to the rogue trading scandal. Colin Armstrong, a senior Jardine Fleming manager, was found to have conducted share transactions to benefit his own account, placing unit trust holders at a disadvantage. "What he has done was pretty terrible and he was their [Jardine's] star fund manager," Mr Timberlake said.

"I am looking for institutions that have discipline and flair," he said.

He described the performance of Jardine Fleming's funds as "a little pedestrian" and said: "I decided to make room for people [whose performance] I have more confidence in."

The four fund houses which the new fund will have the largest exposure to are Fidelity, Schroder, HSBC and Invesco, top management groups in Hong Kong after Jardine Fleming.

After taking Fleming off the list, Henry Cooke (Lloyd George) and Morgan Grenfell are added to the portfolio.

Last week, Jardine Fleming lost the lucrative mandate to manage £70 million of pension funds for Hong Kong Jockey Club, a powerful and prestigious organisation running horse races in the territory.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	3994.7	(-14.6)
Yield	3.93%	
FTSE All share	1963.89	(-5.18)
Nikkei	Closed	
New York:		
Dow Jones	5923.91	(-6.71)*
S&P Composite	696.19	(-0.55)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 5/16%	(5 5/16)
Long Bond	98 11/32	(98 7/32)
Yield	6.87%*	(6.83%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	5 5/32%	(5 7/32%)
Life long gilt future (Dec)	110 11/32	(111 5/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5655*	(1.5657)
London:		
$	1.5653	(1.5655)
DM	2.3960	(2.3913)
FFr	8.0998	(8.0833)
SFr	1.9610	(1.9595)
Yen	174.29	(174.32)
£ Index	97.2	(97.1)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5300*	(1.5284)
FFr	5.1720*	(5.1644)
SFr	1.2520*	(1.2530)
Yen	111.28*	(111.53)
$ Index	97.3	(97.4)

Tokyo close Yen 111.45

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Dec) $23.25 ($23.75)

GOLD

London close $381.85 ($381.45)

* denotes midday trading price

NatWest buys Hambro Magan

By Robert Miller

MORE than 100 senior City executives are set to become millionaires after the investment banking arm of NatWest yesterday acquired J O Hambro Magan, the highly successful corporate finance boutique.

NatWest Markets refused to disclose the cost of buying Hambro Magan but market analysts believe that a basic £20 million price could eventually reach £150 million after 120 staff of the combined operation were locked in by "golden handcuffs". Some of the new contracts are said to be worth as much as £2 million for the best performers.

George Magan, chairman of Hambro Magan, who will become chairman of the new operation when regulatory approval has been granted this month, said that the new pay packets for staff were based on a high degree of loyalty, "performance related compensation and a significant element of golden handcuffs on a person by person basis".

The 40-strong staff of Hambro Magan, which since it was founded in 1998 has advised on transactions with a total value of more than £18 billion, are already among the most well-rewarded corporate financiers and merger and acquisition specialists in the City. At the end of last year, the firm had net assets of around £1 million.

In order to make the loss of the independence they enjoyed as a relatively small boutique more palatable, senior staff at Hambro Magan will have had to have been persuaded by generous renumeration packages and handcuff arrangements that locked them into the new group for some time to come. In the same vein, however, NatWest Markets has had to renegotiate or "make new arrangements" with its 80 key players.

Among the biggest deals that Hambro Magan has worked on are the £1.6 billion agreed takeover of Jaguar by Ford and the £1.8 billion hostile offer for Fisons by Rhone-Poulenc-Rorer. On the NatWest Markets side, there is the £361 million hostile bid defence of Amec by Kvaerner and the £870 million recommended offer for South Wales Electricity by Welsh Water. The most high-profile deal is as adviser to the Ministry of Defence on the £1.66 billion sale of married quarters accomodation.

The NatWest Markets acquisition of Hambro Magan follows the purchase last November of Gleacher & Co, a leading US corporate finance house that has since been renamed Gleacher NatWest. Eric Gleacher, chairman of the eponymous firm, who will become co-chairman of Global Corporate Advisory with Mr Magan, said yesterday that since the aquisition his company alone had generated up to $100 million in revenue.

Among the leading transactions done by Gleacher NatWest are the British Airway's proposed alliance with American Airlines and the $14 billion merger of MFS with WorldCom.

Martin Owen, chief executive of NatWest Markets, who said that transactions for the first nine months of this year for the combined business were worth more than £32 billion, said: "Hambro Magan is widely recognised as one of the leading independent M&A (merger and acquisitions) advisers in the UK and represents a one-of-a-kind acquisition opportunity that will enhance our already powerful presence in corporate finance.

"The combination of Hambro Magan with Gleacher NatWest and NatWest Markets will take our worldwide corporate advisory business to a new level."

Banking unions are expected to protest strongly at the generous new pay deals for a handful of top staff in the NatWest Group.

Tempus, page 28



Magan: new chairman



Tony Gooda, the controversial former Lloyd's underwriter, was among the names to feature in a batch of 240 writs issued in the High Court

Lloyd's names face flurry of writs

By Jon Ashworth

LLOYD'S of London unleashed a volley of writs against non-paying names yesterday in the first step towards recovering £500 million in outstanding debts.

Tony Gooda, the controversial former Lloyd's underwriter, and Sir William Piggot-Brown, the former leading amateur jockey, are among names to feature in a batch of 240 writs issued yesterday in the High Court in London. Sir William, a former Sixties playboy, now lives in South Africa.

Names who ignore demands for payment risk losing their homes and assets in the action, which is led by Dibb Lupton Alsop, the law firm acting for Lloyd's.

Mr Gooda, who introduced names to the ill-fated Gooda Walker syndicates, is being sued for £1.67 million in moneys purportedly owed to Lloyd's. He is abroad on holiday and not available for comment.

Other leading Lloyd's personalities to be singled out include Robin Kingsley, chairman of the Lime Street Agency, who is being sued for £1.26 million. Mr Kingsley placed names on the loss-making Feltrim and Gooda Walker syndicates. Sally Noel, who is campaigning on behalf of non-paying names, faces a demand for nearly £300,000.

She threatened to tear up her writ publicly yesterday, saying she feared the action could trigger a fresh round of suicides among distressed names. Mrs Noel claims the amounts on the writs have not been independently validated.

Controversially, the list also includes Rupert Galliers-Pratt, who was recently censured by the Stock Exchange for failing to disclose his directorships of 17 failed companies.

Mr Galliers-Pratt, an old Etonian, is chairman of Optical Care (Bermuda), which floated on the Alternative Investment Market in the summer.

Gas blow

The Gas Consumers Council has begun talks with Ofgas, the industry regulator, because of a doubling in the number of complaints about gas bills. In the last six months there were 12,800 complaints compared with 6,200 in the same period of 1995.
Page 26

Conran plan

Sir Terence Conran is planning a return to New York with a restaurant and furniture store in a new development to be built at the foot of the Queensboro Bridge. Page 31

Zeneca plans to disclose US donations

By Jason Nisse

ZENECA, the pharmaceutical group, is considering changing its accounting policies to disclose fully donations to US political parties made through the company.

The move is in response to revelations in *The Times* that UK companies have given more than $2.1 million to the Republican Party to help to fund Bob Dole's fight against Bill Clinton for the presidency.

Institutional investors are to press for full disclosure of US donations in the same way that payments to UK political parties have to be disclosed.

Zeneca, which gave $230,000 to US politicians last year, said it was acitively cosidering how it should treat these payments.

BP, which gave $315,000, said that it felt the information was fully disclosed in statutory filings in the US, but if it received overwhelming requests to include this in its UK annual report, it would consider it.

Inflation exceeds 2.5% target again

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

THE headline inflation rate was unchanged at 2.1 per cent in September but underlying inflation, targeted by the Government, rose disappointingly on the day that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, addressed the Conservative party conference.

Underlying inflation rose to 2.9 per cent from 2.8 per cent in August and in each of the preceding three months, so moving further above the Government's aim of 2.5 per cent or less.

Many City economists argued that the latest figures virtually ruled out another cut in base rates.

The main culprits pushing inflation up in September were petrol prices and clothing and footwear prices, which jumped by 5.2 per cent, the biggest monthly rise since records began in 1947, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Statisticians said that there were price rises of between 10 and 30 per cent on many women's dresses and coats as retailers pushed up prices on new autumn lines.

The headline rate held unchanged from August's level, partly because of some mortgage-rate cuts in September, which offset higher house prices.

There was also a downward effect from seasonal food prices, which fell much more sharply this year than last, when prices stayed high because of the drought.

The 2.1 per cent headline rate in September is important because it is the figure that will be used to uprate pensions and many other state benefits such as sickness benefit. Last year, the September headline rate was 3.9 per cent.

Many other benefits — including child benefit and the new Jobseeker's allowance — are uprated by the so-called Rossi index, which is the Retail Prices Index minus most housing costs.

The Rossi index stood at 2.6 per cent in September compared with 3.0 per cent last year.

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BT pension fund backs Liberty launch

By Marianne Curphey

DONALD GORDON, the South African insurance magnate, is to compete head-on with the biggest names in the pensions industry by creating a major new life insurance company.

However, unlike other green field operations, the new company will have the advantage of starting with £1.5 billion worth of funds under management, thanks to a joint venture with the British Telecom Pension Scheme (BTPS).

The new company will be called Hermes Liberty International Pensions Ltd (HLIP). BTPS, which has £31 billion of assets and is the largest fund in Britain, has agreed to transfer £1.5 billion of its funds into the new operation.

In return, BTPS will take a 10 per cent stake in the new company, and BTPS's 100 per cent-owned subsidiary, the fund manager Hermes, will act as the fund manager for HLIP.

Mr Gordon, a player in the insurance industry for 40 years, predicted that pensions would be the "fastest-growing sector in the world".

Mr Gordon hopes to attract business from individuals through a direct telephone operation based in Peterborough. Initially, however, the emphasis will be on winning contracts from companies to manage their employee pension schemes.

HLIP will be able to offer both money-purchase and final salary scheme management, and says the £1.5 billion BTPS transfer will give it the "critical mass" it needs to start up.

Mr Gordon said that pension products would be sold through Liberty International's shopping centre network, which has 150 million visitors a year and includes some of the biggest out-of-town sites in the country — Lakeside Thurrock in Essex and Newcastle's Metro Centre.

HLIP, which plans to launch next spring, will offer a UK index tracking fund and an actively enhanced UK index fund.

Pennington, page 27

Mannesmann sells £223m stake in TI Group

BY KEITH RODGERS

ALMOST 9 per cent of the shares in TI Group, the engineering concern, changed hands yesterday as Germany's Mannesmann sold its stake to free funds for its own expansion in the telecommunications market.

Mannesmann, the engineering group, placed 42.1 million shares through UBS, Cazenove and SBC Warburg at a price of 532p, against an opening price of 564½p. The shares were widely distributed, and the price, which initially fell 9p, closed the day at 556½p.

The deal raised about £223 million for Mannesmann, which first bought a 5 per cent stake in TI for £41.3 million in September 1989. It subsequently increased the holding to 8.86 per cent. The size of the stake had led to repeated speculation about a full takeover bid. The two groups originally came together when TI, which owned Bundy International, the fluid-carrying systems group, bought Mannesmann's minority stake in Bundy Germany. Although both company's said yesterday that they had enjoyed a healthy relationship, there were no joint ventures between them and in recent years their strategic aims have diversified. While TI bought its way into the aerospace industry and polymers, Mannesmann has focused on the highly competitive telecoms arena, and considered the TI investment to be non-core.

One analyst said Mannesmann may launch a rights issue in the second half of next year to fund its continuing telecoms investment. In London, analysts were largely unmoved by the share placement, with several arguing that the TI price remains fair. One suggested that the real surprise was that Mannesmann had not made the disposal earlier.

The three brokers, led by UBS as prime adviser, earned £2.1 million between them after buying the shares at 527p. Earlier this week, TI made a formal offer for Forsheda, the quoted Swedish maker of polymer seals.

Gas billing fiasco adds up to double complaints

BY OLIVER AUGUST

THE Gas Consumers Council (GCC) has begun talks with Ofgas, the industry regulator, in an attempt to end the gas bills fiasco, which has seen the number of complaints double in the last six months, to 12,800.

There were 6,200 complaints in the same period in 1995, the breakdown in the British Gas billing system being blamed for the unprecedented increase.

A further failing of the system emerged yesterday, when it was revealed that hundreds of customers in the South West received letters from a debt collecting agency this week demanding payment for bills that had not been received. Last week, around 100 customers were hit by a bungle that led to them being billed for £10.7 million each.

The billing chaos started two weeks ago, when British Gas was forced to suspend disconnections after thousands of customers were sent red final warnings before having received their bills. Some had even received disconnection notices.

British Gas was forced to guarantee that nobody would be disconnected for non-payment until the end of next month even though the company originally believed the problem was limited to Leeds and East Anglia.

By that time, it hoped that the "teething problems" caused by the introduction of a £150 million computerised billing network would be solved.

However, the GCC is so concerned about the system's inadequacies, which could affect all 18 million domestic gas customers, that it started urgent consultations with Ofgas.

Ian Powe, the GCC director, said: "We have asked Ofgas to tell us soon what action they intend to take against British Gas over the serious failures in its billing system. British Gas put a prototype into production before it was fully tested.

"That is worrying enough but to have done so without the normal safeguard of quality control is to risk public accusations of incompetence at a time when the company must maintain market share to survive."

A spokesman for British Gas admitted that the latest billing problems were caused by the new computer system, adding: "In a very short space of time, we have had to get this enormous billing system in place. This is a monster-sized computer system — the biggest of its kind in the world."

Nigel Griffiths, shadow consumer minister, said that Ofgas had ignored his warning that complaints would increase if no action was taken. He called on the regulator to put the consumer first.

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Business Letters, page 29

PETER TREVNOR



High point: Alan Sugar, the Spurs chairman, who is ready to go into the red in the team's quest for fresh signings

Sugar ready to emulate Premiership big-spenders

BY JASON NISSÉ

ALAN SUGAR, the chairman of Tottenham Hotspur, said yesterday that he was willing to allow Gerry Francis, the club's team manager, to spend substantial amounts on new players, even if it means the company goes into the red.

At the same time he attacked the spiralling payments for players, and singled out Newcastle United, which is currently mulling over a float, for paying £15 million for Alan Shearer, the England captain. "I might be missing the plot here," said Mr Sugar, "but I don't have the faintest idea how Newcastle are funding their purchases."

Spurs has cash balances of £12.2 million and Mr Sugar said that the company was willing to use its banking resources to fund purchases.

Spurs took a massive writedown on its player valuations, reducing them by over 40 per cent. It also changed its year-end from 31 May to 31 July, but the pro forma profits for the 12 months to 31 May, ignoring the writedown, more than doubled to £11.9 million. These figures were boosted by a new shirt sponsorship deal and a profit of £4.6 million on player sales, notably Nicky Barmby for £5.25 million.

Earnings per share, ignoring player trading and writedowns, rose from 26.4p to 37.5p. A final dividend of 3.5p, payable on November 19, makes a total of 5p (3p).

Mr Sugar said that earnings in the future would benefit frm new TV deals. He expects revenue for the live TV deal with BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*, to double this year to £5 million.

Tempus, page 28

High street sales growth continues at slower rate

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

HIGH STREET sales continued to grow in September but at a slower pace than in August, according to the latest distributive trades survey by the Confederation of British Industry, published today.

This was weaker than retailers had expected. Alastair Eperon, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades survey panel, said: "The rate of growth in retail trade eased in September, disappointing companies' expectations of a further pick-up."

Both the slight easing in the pace of sales growth, and evidence that consumers are still balking at paying higher prices, offered some potentially comforting news on inflation in coming months.

The survey showed that clothing shops reported a slowdown in sales after three strong months. Given yesterday's September retail prices figures, which showed the biggest monthly price increase in clothing and footwear since the statistical series began in 1947, this suggests that, in spite of talk of a booming consumer sector, consumers remain price-sensitive.

A hallmark of this economic recovery has been that, whenever retailers tried to raise margins, consumers to some extent staged a boycott. If this relationship remains valid, this should help to keep a lid on retail prices.

Retailers said that they regarded their business as above average for the time of year but this was still at a lesser extent than expected.

On the positive side, Mr Eperon noted that orders placed with suppliers rose at the same rate as in July, which had been the sharpest rate of increase since July 1988. Another sign of buoyancy was the fact that the balance of retailers indicating more than adequate stocks relative to expected sales was the lowest recorded since the survey began in 1983.

The CBI said that all types of shops — apart from off-licences — saw a rise in sales last month compared with last year. Chemists reported the strongest rise in sales since December 1993 after August's sharp slowdown.

The sectors most closely linked to the housing market thrived, with strong growth in sales of hardware, china and DIY, furniture and carpets.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.08	1.92
Austria Sch	17.82	16.32
Belgium Fr	52.22	47.82
Canada $	2.224	2.064
Cyprus Cypf	0.783	0.708
Denmark Kr	9.73	8.93
Finland Mk	7.72	7.07
France Fr	8.48	7.83
Germany Dm	2.55	2.34
Greece Dr	391	386
Hong Kong $	12.75	11.75
Iceland	115	95
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95
Israel Shk	5.38	4.73
Italy Lira	2495	2340
Japan Yen	188.20	172.70
Malta	0.607	0.552
Netherlds Gld	2.834	2.604
New Zealand $	2.41	2.19
Norway Kr	10.72	9.92
Portugal Esc	253.00	234.50
S Africa Rd	7.70	6.90
Spain Pta	207.50	194.50
Sweden Kr	10.95	10.15
Switzerland Fr	2.09	1.91
Turkey Lira	149250	141250
USA $	1.664	1.534

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TM08

United fights BA-AA link

UNITED AIRLINES has asked the US Department of Transportation to investigate formally the proposed link-up between British Airways and American Airlines (Jon Ashworth writes).

United maintains that the interests of American consumers, airports, carriers, and airline industry employees are being shortchanged in the review being conducted by the United Kingdom and the European Commission (EC).

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, is assessing whether to refer the proposed link-up to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC). The EC is studying the implications of various alliances involving European carriers.

Tillman plans return with reverse takeover

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

HAROLD TILLMAN, former head of the Honorbilt fashion group who escaped a DTI application to disqualify him from holding UK directorships, is poised to make a return to British business through a reverse takeover of Hélène.

Shares in Hélène, the struggling clothing-supply company, were suspended at 7p yesterday as the company announced it had entered into an agreement with Dyckhoff, a German department store company controlled by Mr Tillman. Hélène said the proposed deal, estimated at £30 million, is subject to due diligence and a further announcement would be made "as soon as practicable".

It is believed that Mr Tillman will not take a management role, nor be on the board of Hélène after the deal.

Hélène made an £8.7 million loss before tax last year, compared to a £6.13 million profit the year before, and did not pay a final dividend. In June it sold its Just Jamie and Reggie tailored women's wear and outerwear businesses to management.

Honorbilt was floated in 1987 but after a series of ambitious acqusitions, collapsed in 1990 with debts of £11 million. The DTI sought to have Mr Tillman disqualified as a director after the collapse, but in August the High Court found in his favour.

Sainsbury shares hit new low

BY CLARE STEWART

SHARES of J Sainsbury, the supermarket group, hit their lowest level this year after a leading broker cut its profit forecast for the retailer and around 2 per cent of its shares changed hands following a large placing.

At their lowest point the shares fell 11p, to 355p, sliding below its previous low of 357p this year. Earlier in the day 30 million shares were placed at 344p and sold on through SBC Warburg, the Sainsbury broker, at 347p.

Although it was strongly rumoured that the shares had been placed by a member of the Sainsbury family, who hold 40 per cent of the group, the retailer denied this and added that the placing had been made by an institutional investor.

The biggest impact on the price came after a leading sector analyst cut his profit forecasts for the group and downgraded his recommendation from "hold" to "reduce".

Tony MacNeary, of NatWest Markets, has cut his forecast for 1996-97 pre-tax profits to £725 million, down from £750 million, while for 1997-98 his estimate has dropped from £828 million to £794 million.

Mr MacNeary said he had made the changes because he was doubtful that Sainsbury could deliver the target of a 5 per cent increase in like-for-like sales in the second half.



Sainsbury: 'lagging behind'

He also feels that the company, whose chairman and chief executive is David Sainsbury, has not done enough to regain some of the ground taken by rivals such as Tesco. "There is no hard evidence that Sainsbury has developed a marketing offer that differentiates it from its competitors," Mr MacNeary said.

Sainsbury has been making increasingly heavy weather of challenging Tesco as the leading supermarket. In June, it announced its first drop in profits for 22 years, and shortly after launched its first loyalty card in a belated bid to match Tesco's successful Clubcard scheme.

Last month figures on market share in the second half showed Sainsbury falling back to 12.5 per cent, while Tesco's increased its share to 13.7 per cent.

At the close, Sainsbury shares stood at 355½p, down 8½p on the day.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Watchdog seeks TNT shares buyer

AUSTRALIA'S Federal Court has granted the watchdog Australian Securities Commission a freeze on some proceeds from alleged insider dealing in shares of TNT, the transport company, ahead of a surprise A$2 billion (£1 billion) takeover bid by KPN. The ASC has stepped up efforts to trace Mark Booth, believed to be a Briton, who is understood to have ordered the options in TNT by telephone and paid A$87,500 in untraceable bank cheques for the TNT options.

Yesterday the court lifted a freeze on profits of A$9.2 million made by two Australian firms trading in TNT options just ahead of the KPN bid. It agreed to continue a freeze on profits made by Mr Booth. The Australian Taxation Office is also monitoring attempts to locate him. TNT shares were trading at about A$1.56 each when he bought call options over 5 million at an exercise price of A$2. The shares are now trading at A$2.41, just below KPN's offer price of A$2.45.

Imro clears unit trusts

THE unit trust industry has been given a mostly clean bill of health by Imro, the City watchdog, after a review prompted by the Morgan Grenfell scandal. The Investment Management Regulatory Organisation made inspection visits to a number of fund management firms as part of a review of unquoted securities. Imro said the visits confirmed firms hold "minimal ... if indeed any" holdings in unquoted securities. In a "small number" of cases, improvements could be made to control processes and the "clarity" of the disclosure of unquoted securities.

Leeson boss sues bank

A FORMER boss of Nick Leeson, the jailed trader, is taking Barings Bank to an industrial tribunal, claiming £500,000 in unpaid bonuses. American-born Mary Walz claims the merchant bank is in breach of its contract for refusing her claim to the massive payout when she was sacked last year. Currently jobless, Ms Walz was global head of equity financial products and one of 21 top managers dismissed after the bank's rescue by ING. She says other staff got their bonuses while the 21 sacked executives did not receive their share.

Record profits for GE

AMERICA'S General Electric Co saw third-quarter profits rose 11 per cent to a record $1.788 billion. Revenues grew 16 per cent to a record $20 billion ($17.3 billion), helped by income from the Olympics televised by its NBC television network as well as greater global activities and higher sales of spare parts and services. The GE Capital Services subsidiary lifted earnings 15 per cent to $816 million. NBC broadcast the Atlanta Olympics to a US audience of 209 million. It expects strong ratings for its new autumn schedule.

Red phone box deal

BT reached an out-of-court settlement yesterday with New World Payphones (NWP), its biggest phone box rival, over the old-style red K2 and K6 phone boxes. BT obtained a temporary injunction this summer preventing NWP from using the traditional red phone box in conservation areas. The injunction was dropped after yesterday's agreement. Precise terms are confidential, but BT will make sites available to NWP, where BT's modern kiosk is already installed. BT has the sole right to install the old phone box.

Easynet in talks

EASYNET, the AIM-listed Internet access provider, is in talks with UK Online, one of its rivals, with a view to a possible merger. Easynet said the talks reflect the growing consolidation in the Internet industry. UK Online is 77 per cent owned by Olivetti. The other shareholders are Herman Houser, who designed the BBC Microcomputer, and Tim King, his associate. Both companies connect users to the Internet. Easynet says it has now attracted a subscriber base of 10,000 while UK Online is understood to have signed around 3,500 users.

Skyepharma drug rights

SKYEPHARMA, the pharmaceuticals company, paid $1 million yesterday to acquire the American rights to six asthma and painkiller compounds from Genta-Jago Technologies, a drugs development venture it jointly owns. The compounds were described as "the pick of the bunch" of the 63 in Genta-Jago's portfolio. Skyepharma reported a pre-tax loss of £6 million in the year to July 31, against a loss of £10 million previously. Analysts expect the company to become profitable in 1998. The shares closed at 75½p, up 1½p.

Brooks Service ahead

BROOKS SERVICE, the textile rental company and retailer, is raising £600,000 through a private placing to fund last month's £385,000 acquisition of Hillside Services. The announcement came as the company returned record interim results, buoyed by a 55 per cent rise in operating profits from its workwear division. Pre-tax profits were £243,000 (£177,000) in the 26 weeks to June 30. Earnings were 1.35p a share (0.99p) and an interim dividend of 1.2p (1p) is payable on November 22.

BT and Viag on track

BRITISH TELECOM and Viag, a German utility, are to proceed with plans to launch a competing telecoms service to Deutsche Telekom in spite of the loss on Wednesday of RWE, another German utility, from their alliance. BT and Viag will bid for the country's fourth mobile-phone licence and want another partner. Georg Obermeier, Viag's chairman, said the goal of BT and Viag is to win 20 per cent of the German mobile-phone market and 7 per cent of fixed network services. He said the partnership would break even in five years.

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BPTM 03

☐ Uncertainties facing British Gas ☐ Liberty targets money-purchase schemes ☐ Yorkshire boss's Bournemouth shocker

Breaking up is hard to do

☐ IT IS hard to imagine how things could get worse for British Gas, but on the evidence so far they probably will. Sending the debt collectors around to households blameless of any crime save wanting to buy their gas elsewhere might seem comical. Likewise the arrival on various doormats of bills for £10.7 million each might merely be a clever way out of the company's difficulties with ruinous North Sea take-or-pay contracts.

But both are part of seemingly endless public relations disasters that have distracted attention from the really important issue for British Gas, next spring's demerger into a pipelines, exploration and production business and the supply, retail and service side that most of us deal with. Because the first, dubbed TransCo International so far because no one can agree on names, is the successor company, there is no need to issue a prospectus. Probably as well, because one would make curious reading. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission will not have ended its inquiry into the rather crucial matter of how much the company can charge for use of its pipelines.

That is uncertainty one. The other business, for which a full prospectus will have to be prepared, faces another two, or just conceivably three. On the supposition, highly speculative, that the billing chaos gets much worse, British Gas Energy could one day have difficulty saying how much is owed by customers. Not likely, say insiders. There is also a largely overlooked pricing review into supply, with Clare Spottiswoode, the regulator, expected to announce her first shot shortly. This could go to the MMC as well. Bet against it.

The third uncertainty is those take-or-pay contracts, and this will not go away before the spring. On one analysis, if these are fully enforced the company is bust, a view expressed some time back by the regulator. Directors who sign off the prospectus will have to confirm BGE's continuing viability, but don't expect too much detail.

All these uncertainties are giving rise to a body of opinion that demerger should be delayed, a view expressed even within the boardroom, according to reports. Not true, say insiders. It would be an enormous climb-down, but it would not be unthinkable.

But it might not be necessary. Assume, and it is a big assumption, there is the management time to carry out the huge amount of necessary paperwork. Two companies will be quoted come the spring but shareholders, because of the above uncertainties, will find it difficult to assess their true worth. Too bad. Analysts may have to work a little harder, rather than having it all handed to them on a plate. But Eurotunnel investors have been there for months, holding shares in a company it was impossible, until this week, to value rationally. British Gas shareholders may have to take the same long view. But it would not be the end of the world.

Proud parents: big infant

☐ "A NEW child born the size of a colossus" is how Alastair Ross Goobey, chief executive of Hermes, describes the new insurance company he has created with the help of Liberty International. Well not quite. Beside the gargantuan Prudential, with £8.5 billion of gross annual premium income, Hermes Liberty International Pensions (HLIP) still looks a tiddler. Its only client at present is the BT Pension Scheme, and with no new premium income coming in and the usual business start-up costs, HLIP is unlikely to make a profit in its first year.



Still, few new companies begin life with such a comforting wad of money already in the coffers, and Donald Gordon, Liberty's chairman, has enough experience of the industry to know the scale of the competition he faces.

HLIP is chasing business from company pension schemes, some of which are run by in-house fund managers while others have been broken up or closed down and are farmed out to be managed by the mightiest names in the City, including names such as BZW and MAM.

Faced with demographic changes and rising costs, trustees of corporate schemes are increasingly opting for new-style money-purchase pension schemes. Unlike the old-style final salary schemes, where the final pension was linked to earnings, these schemes are dependent on how wisely an employee's contributions have been invested and how the fund has performed.

Not all the traditional pension providers can offer these newer schemes, and it is this gap in the market which HLIP is hoping to fill. Some of the merchant banks have spotted it too, and have taken steps to create their own new life insurance arms.

The deal makes sense for both Hermes and Liberty. Hermes can offer pooled index-tracking and actively managed funds to Liberty, which in turn can provide the administrative backing that pensions business requires.

The joint venture has also thrown up opportunities for fund managers to look after property, cash and active global equity portfolios for Liberty's existing pensions arm. Among those tipped are Fidelity and MAM. Expect news within weeks.

The morning after

☐ FUNNY places, party conferences, and many a career has been blighted by an unguarded comment. It is normally aspiring politicians who read reports of their deeds with horror the next morning, but the latest to suffer is Malcolm Chatwin, chief executive of Yorkshire Electricity.

At a fringe meeting in Bournemouth to talk about utilities regulation, Mr Chatwin livened up a dull evening, and who wouldn't be tempted to, with an assessment of how much his company was worth, according to a wire service report the next morning. Callers offering nine quid or more would not be wasting their time, he said with a sly wink. He then stripped to his underpants and said he would be voting for the Referendum Party.

Actually, I made the last bit up. The first bit, about offers of £9 or more, the wire service made up, according to Yorkshire's shocked spokesman the next day. Of course, publicly hawking your company around the place is both undignified and against any number of boring Stock Exchange rules.

But directors are required to get the highest price for shareholders, and Yorkshire's might be glad to see upwards of £9, especially since plans for a £120 million special payout fell foul of the Inland Revenue. Perhaps Mr Chatwin should not be quite so embarrassed about the suggestion.

Fringe banking

☐ HERE is a serious business proposition. The Pennington Investment Bank, operating from a small rock in the Gulf of Panama, would like to look after your money for you. Forget all the regulatory bureaucracy, and don't worry about the Medellin cocaine cartel a few miles away — we're on the Internet, we're talking the cutting edge of high-tech finance here. The Bank of England has just had to warn investors about a similar scheme. This is based in Antigua, an odd place to do business although it seems to appeal to the Chechen mafia. And how much silly money is already winging its way to the Caribbean?

Boots set to make strides beyond UK

By Sarah Cunningham

BOOTS is to expand its retailing business beyond Britain's shores and plans to spend £30 million over the next 18 months opening branches in The Netherlands, Thailand and Japan.

Lord Blyth, deputy chairman and chief executive of Boots, yesterday signed an agreement to set up a joint venture with the Minor Group, a Thai conglomerate, to open five Boots stores by the summer of next year. Four will be in the Bangkok area and one in Pattaya.

Martyn Bell, previously merchandise and marketing director of Halfords, Boots's retail subsidiary, will be managing director of the partnership.

Three stores will opened in The Netherlands next summer. Eva, a Dutch healthcare provider, will supply in-store pharmacy services, by-passing Dutch restrictions on corporations owning pharmacies. Boots will handle the rest of the retailing side. The Dutch operation will be managed by Peter Stone, previously director of store planning for Boots the Chemists.

No details were given about plans for Japan, though an announcement would be made "shortly". A similarly small number of stores are expected to open there. All the overseas stores will be run on a trial basis and for an indeterminate period.

Lord Blyth said that the company's approach would be "prudent, gradual and long-term". He added: "We have undertaken an exhaustive review and identified three countries which we believe offer good prospects for Boots stores. The purpose of opening these pilot stores is to carry out a throrough evaluation of the commercial opportunities and operational issues before considering the scope for further investment in these countries or elsewhere."

The company said that the Thai and Dutch Boots stores would closely resemble the British model. Merchandise will include international brands, local products and Boots own brands.

Boots pulled out of unsatisfactory overseas retailing operations in New Zealand, Canada and France several years ago. Like many other UK retailers, Boots began to look overseas again because it perceived that there was a relative lack of opportunities in the home market.

Tempus, page 28

Shell plans polyethylene joint venture

SHELL International Chemicals is merging its polyethylene interests into a joint venture with BASF to create one of the top three polyethylene producers in Europe (Carl Mortished writes).

Shell has signed a non-binding letter of intent to form a 50/50 joint venture combining Rheinische Olefinwerke Wesseling and BASF's polyethylene activities. It said that the venture would take over Montell's assets in France and the UK and would have polyethylene capacity of 1.4 million tonnes per annum.

The joint venture will be subject to regulatory approval and is intended to improve Shell and BASF's competitive position in polyethylene, which is used in plastic bags and extrusion products.

Etam opts for £5m revamp

ETAM, the women's fashion retailers, is to spend up to £5 million revamping its stores and will launch an extensive advertising campaign in an attempt to stem its losses, which at the half year reached £5.76 million (Sarah Cunningham writes).

Sales in the six months to August 10 fell to £94.5 million, compared with £106.7 million a year ago, when the company made a pre-tax loss of £3.85 million.

A new logo and corporate colours will be introduced to all 221 stores by the end of this month while Jerry Hall and Marie Helvin, the models, Sharon Davies and Diane Udal, the TV performers, and Lesley and Debbie Ash, the actress sisters, will advertise the Etam brand.

N Brown pulls ahead

By Sarah Cunningham

N BROWN, the catalogue retailing company that specialises in larger sized clothing, unveiled a sparkling set of interim results yesterday, sending its shares 5 per cent higher to 421p.

The company, chaired by Sir David Alliance, which last year failed in a bid to take over Littlewoods, said that a lack of major targets meant that it would concentrate on organic growth and acquisitions of smaller mail order companies.

However, Jim Martin, chief executive, said that were the Littlewoods family ever to decide to sell up, N Brown would still be very interested. The company made a pre-tax profit of £16 million, up 27.4 per cent, on turnover up 22.9 per cent to £131.4 million in the six months to August 31.

Earnings per share were up 25.2p to 7.35p and the interim dividend has been raised 25 per cent to 2p.

Sir David said that catalogues for younger customers had produced a 39 per cent increase in turnover. Sales of menswear were also strong and now accounted for 9 per cent of business.

Analysts increased their forecasts to about £38 million pre-tax profit for the full-year.

Lemon Yellow
Burnt Sienna
Bright Lime
Royal Blue
Light Mauve
Chrome Orange
Brick Red
Minty Green
Imperial Purple
Prussian Blue
Hot Pink
Sky Blue
Barium Yellow
Mid Blue
Marine Green
Pastel Pink
Dale Green
Soft Peach
Peacock Blue
Saddle Brown
Grey Green
Oyster Beige
Glacier Blue
Well Read

STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Inflation worries send shares below 4,000 level

SHARE prices dipped back below the 4,000 level and government securities suffered falls of up to £1 as the spectre of higher inflation came back to haunt investors.

An unexpected half-point rise in inflation during September and further suggestions that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, might decide to tighten monetary policy caught investors on the hop.

At one stage, the FT-SE 100 index was 28 points lower as the Dow Jones industrial average opened with double-figure falls. But it halved these losses by the close, ending 14.6 points down at 3,994.7.

The appearance of several large lines of stock boosted the total number of shares traded to 915 million. Geneal selling pressure proved minimal.

J Sainsbury suffered a double whammy, with the price falling 8½p to 355½p after a large chunk of the shares changed hands and one broker followed it up with a profits downgrade.

SBC Warburg, the broker, placed a line of 30 million shares, or almost 2 per cent of the company, with various clients at 347p. By the close of business 58 million Sainsbury shares had changed hands, suggesting that not all of them had been taken up. The finger of suspicion immediately fell on the Sainsbury family as the seller of the stock, but the company was quick to deny such suggestions.

A short while later NatWest Securities, the broker, cut its forecast by £25 million to £725 million and reduced its recommendation from a "hold" to "reduce". It was joined by Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, which says the shares are a "sell".

The market also had to digest a large line of stock in **TI Group** as Mannesmann, its biggest shareholder, decided to unload its near 9 per cent holding. SBC Warburg also had a hand in this placing alongside Cazenove and UBS. Between them they disposed of 42 million shares at 532p on behalf of the German engineering group. The sale has raised a total of £223 million. The original 5 per cent stake was bought in 1989 for about £40 million. Mannesmann said it continued to have every confidence in the management. TI finished the session 8p cheaper at 556½p as 111 million shares were traded.

There were a few bright spots. **Commericial Union**, of which John Carter is chief executive, climbed 19p to 645p as no less than four brokers came out with positive comments on the company. Cazenove, Goldman Sachs, BZW and Lehman Brothers have all rated the shares a "buy". BZW says the shares could be worth up to 800p each. Speculators have been waiting for CU to follow the lead of Sun Alliance and Royal Insurance and merge with another of the composites.



John Carter, of Commercial Union, saw the shares rise

In the past there has also been talk of a possible bid from the likes of Allianz, the German insurer. **Royal Sun Alliance** was 6p dearer at 418½p by the close, while **Guardian Royal Exchange** put on 7p at 265p with the help of a "buy" recommendation from NatWest Securities. **Burmah Castrol** came under selling pressure, with the price falling 20½p to £11.03½ after Kleinwort Benson, the broker, was reckoned to have turned cautious on the stock.

Signs of recovery enabled **Etam** to shrug off increased losses at the interim stage, with the price rising 2p to 157½p. Pre-tax losses grew from £3.8 million to £5.75 million with Nick Bubb, of MeesPierson, forecasting losses for the full year reduced to £1 million. Brokers said that they were willing to give the new management the benefit of the doubt.

Blacks Leisure continued to benefit from this week's profits upgrade from MeesPierson with a rise of 9p to 282½p. The market gave the thumbs up to half-year figures from **N Brown**, the mail order retailer, with the price climbing 22p to 421p. In the first six months pre-tax profits grew from £12.5 million to £16 million, with brokers forecasting about £36 million for the full year.

Speculative buying continued to drive **Leigh Interests**, the waste disposal group, higher with the price adding 2½p at 129p, just a couple of pence short of the year's high. There has been talk about a possible bid from **Severn Trent**, unchanged at 602½p.

BTG hit a new high with a rise of 175p at £25.62½ after given a presentation to brokers to discuss its joint venture with Ford Torotrak. Brokers came away impressed with what they heard.

Reduced losses from **SkyePharma** at the interim stage were given a cautious welcome by brokers as the price firmed 1½p to 75½p. The deficit was £6 million compared with almost £10 million last time.

Lavendon got off to a confident start in first-time trading. Shares in the group, which supplies powered access equipment used to replace scaffolding, were placed at 140p and started life at 145p. After touching a high for the day of 149½p, they settled at 147½, a premium of 7½p.

Shares of **Richards Group** were suspended at 8½p pending clarifcation of the company's financial position.

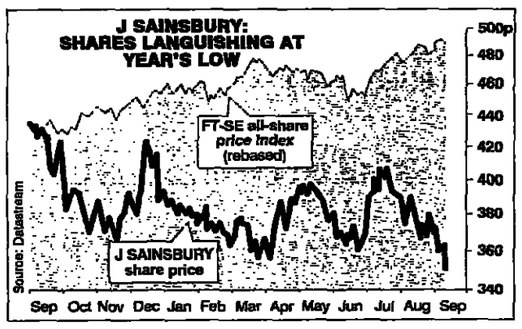
□ **GILT-EDGED:** The latest inflation numbers focused investors' attention back on the uncertain outlook for interest rates as the market's recent strong run hit the buffers.

Losses of up to £1 were recorded at the ultra long end of the market, with setbacks for other European markets only exacerbating the situation.

In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt retreated £¾ to finish at £110¹¹/₃₂ as a total of 97,000 contracts were completed. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost £²⁹/₃₂ at £101²⁹/₃₂, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £¹¹/₃₂ worse off at £104⁹/₁₆.

□ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street stocks were little changed at mid-session after rebounding from a morning sell-off triggered by stronger than expected labour data. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 6.71 points to 5,923.91.

Kelsey Industries tumbled 105p to 355p in response to another profits warning sneaked out after the market closed on Wednesday. It succeeded in wiping £3.2 million from the group's stock market value of £14.1 million. Profits for the full year are expected to be significantly below last year's £3.1 million.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones ... 5923.91 (-6.71)
S&P Composite ... 696.19 (-0.55)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average ... Closed

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ... 12242.47 (-8.10)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index ... 584.37 (-3.47)

Sydney:
AO ... 2323.5 (+12.8)

Frankfurt:
DAX ... 2680.75 (-22.24)

Singapore:
Straits ... 2121.30 (-14.26)

Brussels:
General ... 9792.03 (-37.98)

Paris:
CAC-40 ... 2135.63 (-11.08)

Zürich:
SKA Gen ... 791.20 (-2.80)

London:

FT 30	2824.2	(-11.0)
FT 100	3994.7	(-14.6)
FTSE Mid 250	4432.8	(+1.5)
FTSE 350	1989.8	(-5.6)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	1754.34	(-13.76)
FT All-Share	1963.89	(-5.18)
FT Non Financials	2058.10	(-5.59)
FT Fixed Interest	116.22	(-0.23)
FT Govt Secs	94.71	(-0.39)
Bargains	38260	
SEAQ Volume	915.6m	
USM (Datastrm)	202.26	(-0.54)
US$	1.5659	(+0.0014)
German Mark	2.3955	(+0.0046)
Exchange Index	87.2	(+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
£/ECU	1.2480	
£/SDR	1.0872	
RPI	153.8 Sep (2.1%) Jan 1987=100	
RPIX	153.6 Sep (2.9%) Jan 1987=100	

RECENT ISSUES

AEA Technology	334½	–	2
Airtech	69½	–	1
Amer Opps U Ln	95		...
Brunner Mond	170	–	½
Charles Taylor	162½		...
Cruden Bay	83½	–	1½
Deltron Electrn (150)	160½	–	5
Elec Retail Sys	197½		...
Eurasia Mining	315		...
GT Chile Gth	2587½	–	16½
Grosvenor Land	15½		...
Harrstone 8% Cv	120½		...
Imperial Tobacco	401	–	4½
Interoute Tele	172½		...
Lavendon	147½		...
Mears Group	12	+	½
Millennium Chem	1446½	+	16½
Oriental Restrnts	207½	–	2
Personal Number	84½		...
Polydoc	69½		...
Shallbane	137½		...
Thistle Hotels (170)	172½	–	1
Ultra Electronics	290½		...
Weeks Group	7¼		...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Davis Fin ULS n/p	56½	...
Fll Group n/p (105)	2	...
Grampian n/p (125)	2	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Photo-Me	120p (+11p)
Blenheim Gp	482½p (+25p)
Regent Inns	262½p (+10p)
Corn Union	645p (+19p)
PizzaExpress	514½p (+15p)
Scot TV	775½p (+18p)
Stand Chart	708p (+13p)
Charter	855p (+18½p)
Powerscreen	580p (+11p)

FALLS:

Matthew Clark	314p (-25p)
Caritab Pharms	560p (-25p)
Watts Blake	450p (-20p)
Biocomps Intl	545p (-20p)
Smiths Ind	769½p (-14p)
Barclays	953p (-15½p)
Reckitt & Colm	722½p (-11p)
C'try Casuals	116½p (-20p)
JKX Oil & Gas	145p (-12½p)
Yates Bros	352p (-11½p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Expensive boutique

THEY do things differently in the City. A new team of bright and bushy-tailed advisers will soon be walking into cavernous entrance hall of NatWest Markets in Bishopsgate, home of the bank's corporate finance department. The clearer has paid a handsome sum to buy the 40-strong team that makes up Hambro Magan, a highly successful corporate finance boutique. Hambro has its name associated with some big ticket mergers and the idea is to beef up NatWest's second division operation.

Essentially, this is a management buy-in and it makes some sense. A price of £2 million per employee is suggested by some which seems enormous and almost equals the $135 million paid for Gleacher, the US corporate finance acquired by NatWest last year. However, given the bank's determination to invest in this risky market, shareholders would prefer it paid £80 million for Hambro, ratherthan several billion for Schroders.

Outside the City, in the dreary world of manufacturing, news of such an acquisition would arouse fear in the hearts of existing employees. They would correctly predict redundancies after the purchase of an identical but more profitable business. Why keep two factories — one first-class and one third-rate — when a single plant will suffice?.

But the corporate financiers who dream up such deals would not be so foolish as to subject themselves to such a fate. Instead costs are likely to increase. New arrangements have been put in place — "a partnership structure" — and no one is to go. For the benefit of clients, in the marbled entrance hall at Bishopsgate should be writ large: Don't do as I do, do as I say.

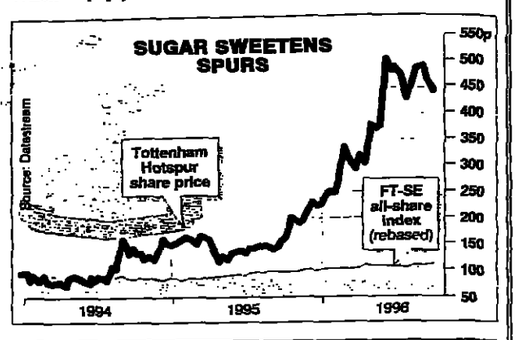
Tottenham

ACCORDING to Alan Sugar, the financial crisis at Tottenham Hotspur was so great when he took control of the football club there was a danger of shutting up shop and turning the ground at White Hart Lane into a Tesco superstore. Four and a half years on, Spurs is a strong, well run business which is clearly undervalued by the market.

How has the Amstrad tycoon managed to do this? Essentially by being stingy. Sugar is a man who counts every penny, a point which is not lost on the legions of fans who are wondering when he will dip into his pocket to purchase some new players.

The club's figures show the group is at last, after more than a decade as a public company, realising its potential. After deducting the profits on the sale of some players and the write down on the value of the rest, the annualised profits stand at £7.3 million. This should rise quickly in the next couple of years as TV revenue and sponsorship income soars, although the escalating player wages should take the shine of this a little. When pay-per-view TV comes in, the profits of Spurs, as of all Premiership teams, should go into orbit.

Which makes it all the more curious that Spurs shares slipped 2½p to 439p yesterday. The only cloud on the horizon is the team's poor form: relegation would be a financial disaster. If someone knows something, please tell.



Boots

BOOTS is such a very British retailer that hearts might sink at news of overseas expansion. The company has tried it before — opening and closing in Canada and New Zealand in the Eighties. It also withdrew from a French venture that failed to measure up. But the company is probably right to have a go in the Far East.

Boots is one of many retailers facing a slowdown in domestic expansion because of shrinking opportunities for new stores. Other big retailers such as Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury have already made investments in foreign waters; in that context the Boots plans are modest, although no less important.

The Dutch market is attractive for Boots because, unlike many other continental European countries, it has relaxed rules on the ownership of multiple pharmaceutical outlets. Japan is already popular with British retailers while Thailand has its attractions: a growing middle class, urban population.

Nevertheless Boots is taking a risk in attempting to transplant the Boots image, style and shop format directly into a foreign shopping culture. The strategy is more low-key this time — it is investing £30 million into pilot schemes, a sign that it has learnt from its mistakes and the experience of others.

Mountview

MOUNTVIEW Estates hides its light under a bushel but among the residential property investment community, it is well known. Bradford Property Trust, a rival, is enough of a fan to have picked up 9 per cent of the company on Wednesday at about £13 per share.

Thinly traded and with over half of the company controlled by the Sinclair family, Mountview shares have bounced around the £11 mark for almost two years. However, there is good reason to believe they could now be on the move. It is one of the largest investors in rent-controlled housing, buying estates at auctions and selling the flats and houses as they become vacant.

Rents are way below commercial levels, but rising — local authorities have been authorising biennial rent increases of 20 per cent in order to catch up with the open market. At the same time, the London housing market is looking more lively. The book value of Mountview's housing stock puts the company's net asset value at £12-£13 but a revaluation of the stock would put the value near £20 and, with vacant possession, higher still.

Mountview would fit nearly into Bradford and the former company's board is not youthful. If the stock becomes available, it is worth tucking away.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Dec	984-983	Mar	1072 SLR
Mar	1014-1013	May	1083-1081
May	1025-1024	Jul	1094-1087
Jul	1039-1037	Sep	1110-1090
Sep	1051 SLR		
Dec	1062-1060	Volume: 10847	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	1523-1520	Jul	1425-1418
Jan	1471-1470	Sep	1435-1410
Mar	1442-1441	Nov	1435-1410
May	1424-1420	Volume: 4367	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	322.0-22.5
Spot: 331.0		Oct	314.0-14.4
Dec	323.2-22.8	Dec	317.0-17.0
Mar	320.6-20.1	Mar	320.4-19.0
May	321.1-20.4	Volume: 1415	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 9

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	99.39	112.53	94.80
(+/-)	-4.26	-1.58	+0.97
Eng/Wales	99.39	112.91	93.46
(+/-)	-4.26	-1.72	+0.56
(%)	+1.0	-2.0	+0.8
Scotland	unq	111.65	100.03
(+/-)		-0.77	+1.93
(%)		+32.0	+28.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	23.70	-0.95
Brent 15 day (Nov)	23.70	-0.85
Brent 15 day (Dec)	23.25	-0.80
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	24.45	-0.95
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	24.10	-0.85

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	227 (+3)	230 (+3)
Gasoil EEC	237 (-11)	239 (-11)
3.5 Fuel Oil	123 (+2)	126 (+3)
Naphtha	226 (+2)	229 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Nov	224.75-25.00	Feb	204.00 BID
Dec	218.50-18.75	Mar	195.00-96.00
Jan	212.75 SLR	Vol: 27778	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Nov	23.60-23.62	Feb	21.92-22.00
Dec	23.23-23.24	Mar	unq
Jan	22.58-22.60	Vol: 38908	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	101.90	Nov	101.25
Jan	103.85	Jan	102.50
Mar	105.25	Mar	103.75
May	106.90	May	105.25
Jul	108.25	Sep	95.50
Volume: 488		Volume: 86	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	35.00
Mar	...	73.40
Apr	74.5	74.00
Volume: 36		

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Clf p/k)

Nov ... 84.50-85.00

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 96	1145	1140	1145
Nov 96	1220	1213	1219
Dec 96	1220	1210	1215
Jan 97	1239	1235	1234
Vol: 138 lots		Open interest: 4131	

Index 1054 +10

(Official) (Volume prev day) — **LONDON METAL EXCHANGE** — **Rudolf Wolff**

	Cash	Settle	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1093.0-1094.0	1042.0-1043.0	1780109
Lead ($/tonne)	766.00-768.50	767.00-767.50	196675
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1029.0-1030.0	1030.5-1031.0	514575
Tin ($/tonne)	5995.0-6000.0	6050.0-6055.0	18145
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1285.0-1286.0	1317.0-1317.5	1092050
Nickel ($/tonne)	7025.0-7035.0	7135.0-7140.0	63528

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 96	4036.0	4046.0	4002.0	4026.0	16492
Previous open interest: 63047	Mar 97				4038.0	0
FT-SE 250	Dec 96				4455.0	0
Previous open interest: 3571	Mar 97					0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 96	94.05	94.05	93.95	93.98	33433
Previous open interest: 418177	Mar 97	93.91	93.91	93.75	93.80	60155
	Jun 97	93.71	93.71	93.51	93.57	38477
Three Mth Euro Yen	Mar 97				99.32	0
	Jun 97	99.19	99.19	99.19	99.19	450
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 96	96.87	96.88	96.85	96.86	24144
Previous open interest: 1086527	Mar 97	96.85	96.87	96.82	96.84	34819
Long Gilt	Dec 96	110-29	111-02	110-03	110-11	98893
Previous open interest: 167466	Mar 97	109-21	109-21	109-21	109-15	4
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 96	123.43	123.45	123.37	123.43	370
	Mar 97	122.44	122.44	122.44	122.43	5
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 96	99.55	99.75	99.25	99.45	206600
Previous open interest: 262707	Mar 97	98.56	98.56	98.32	98.47	163
Three month ECU	Dec 96	95.89	95.91	95.86	95.88	1495
Previous open interest: 22696	Mar 97	95.90	95.92	95.85	95.90	980
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 96	98.38	98.40	98.33	98.34	7960
Previous open interest: 85772	Mar 97	98.35	98.36	98.29	98.31	3137
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 96	123.50	123.78	123.20	123.51	97302
Previous open interest: 93505	Mar 97				122.75	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½. Finance Hse 6

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5 Low 5½ Week fixed: 5½

Treasury Bills (Dis)Buy: 2 mth 5⁵/₁₆ ; 3 mth 5¹¹/₁₆ . Sell: 2 mth 5⅜ ; 3 mth: 5⅝ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅜-5⅜	5⅜-5⅜	5⅜-5⅜	5⅜-5⅜	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	6-5⅝	6⅛-6⅛
Interbank:	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	6-5⅝	6⅛-6⅛

Overnight: open 5⅛, close 5 .

Local Authority Depo:	5⅝	n/a	5⅝	6⅛
Sterling CDs:	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	6⅛-6⅛
Dollar CDs:	5.29	n/a	5.42	5.54 5.76
Building Society CDs:	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⅝	6-5⅝ 6⅛-6⅛

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-4¹⁵/₁₆	5⅛-5¼	5¼-5⅜	5⅛-5⅜	5-5¼
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2¹⁵/₁₆	3⅛-2¾	3⅛-2¹⁵/₁₆	3¼-3	3⅛-2⅞
French Franc:	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	4-3
Swiss Franc:	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	2-1
Yen:	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $381.40-381.70 Close: $381.00-382.10 High: $382.10-382.60
Low: $381.10-381.60 AM: $381.60 PM: $381.75

Krugerrand: $381.00-383.00 (£243.00-245.00)

Platinum: $388.00 (£247.70) Silver: $5.01 (£3.195) Palladium: $117.75 (£75.15)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Sept 10	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6827-2.6901	2.6855-2.6878	¼-¼pr	2¼-2¼pr
Brussels	49.260-49.440	49.341-49.378	14-9pr	38-32pr
Copenhagen	9.1590-9.1930	9.1739-9.1834	2-1½pr	5½-4¾pr
Dublin	0.9741-0.9776	0.9741-0.9753	3-1pr	8-2pr
Frankfurt	2.3919-2.3985	2.3950-2.3969	¼-⅓pr	1¼-1pr
Lisbon	241.86-242.78	242.37-242.64	¼-½ds	½-¾ds
Madrid	201.34-201.85	201.59-201.73	14-24ds	42-60ds
Milan	2384.1-2388.8	2384.7-2387.7	4-6ds	12-14ds
Montreal	2.1121-2.1174	2.1157-2.1174	0.45-0.40pr	0.97-0.79pr
New York	1.5648-1.5666	1.5659-1.5666	0.075-0.055pr	0.153-0.122pr
Oslo	10.172-10.201	10.190-10.201	¼-¼pr	½-¾pr
Paris	8.0970-8.1100	8.0973-8.1025	1¼-1pr	3-2½pr
Stockholm	10.302-10.356	10.321-10.339	¼-¼pr	½-¾pr
Tokyo	174.04-174.54	174.21-174.26	¼-¼pr	2¼-2¾pr
Vienna	16.821-16.874	16.848-16.863	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¾pr
Zurich	1.9561-1.9633	1.9597-1.9622	¼-¼pr	2¼-2¾pr

Source: Extel — Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2683-1.2690
Austria	10.75-10.76
Belgium (Com)	31.49-31.53
Canada	1.3512-1.3517
Denmark	5.8586-5.8606
France	5.1708-5.1718
Germany	1.5290-1.5295
Hong Kong	7.7320-7.7323
Ireland	1.6055-1.6075
Italy	1523.80-1525.30
Japan	111.16-111.21
Malaysia	2.5053-2.5058
Netherlands	1.7140-1.7150
Norway	6.5051-6.5088
Portugal	154.74-154.84
Singapore	1.4091-1.4098
Spain	128.12-128.76
Sweden	6.9040-6.9015
Switzerland	1.2514-1.2524

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5654-1.5680
Australia dollar	1.9858-1.9883
Bahrain dinar	0.5840-0.5960
Brazil real*	1.5823-1.5865
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.7225-0.7325
Finland markka	7.0875-7.2035
Greece drachma	372.25-379.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.1083-12.1142
India rupee	55.34-56.30
Indonesia rupiah	3509.0-3667.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4645-0.4745
Malaysia ringgit	3.9236-3.9262
New Zealand dollar	2.2504-2.2630
Pakistan rupee	57.35 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.6375-5.7615
Singapore dollar	2.3065-2.3090
S Africa rand (com)	7.0690-7.1710
U A E dirham	5.9475-5.9815

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3I	1,700	Lloyds TSB	9,100
ASDA Gp	2,000	LucasVarity	2,900
Abbey Nit	4,100	Marks Spr	5,100
Allied Dom	1,600	NatWst Bk	5,700
Argos	346	Nat Grid	1,800
AB Foods	234	Nat Power	1,200
BAA	2,700	Next	2,300
BAT Inds	4,700	Orange	712
BOC	2,800	P & O	1,700
BP	8,300	Pearson	1,500
BSkyB	2,000	Pilkington	3,800
BTR	7,800	PowerGen	1,700
BT	11,300	Prudential	2,100
Bk of Scot	6,000	RMC	524
Barclays	3,300	RTZ	3,900
Bass	3,000	Rallirack	1,800
Blue Circle	1,200	Rank Group	3,400
Boots	1,200	Reckitt Col	2,000
Bae	719	Redland	2,000
BA	3,600	Reed Intl	2,400
Brit Gas	6,000	Rentokil	4,400
Brit Steel	606	Reuters	6,400
Burmah Cstl	498	Rolls Royce	2,600
Burton	7,100	Royal & Sun	4,200
Cable Wire	9,800	Royal Bk Sct	1,600
Cadbury	384	Safeway	3,700
Carlton Cms	2,700	Sainsbury	58,300
Cm Union	4,300	Schroders	227
Courtaulds	3,700	Scot & New	787
Dixons	1,900	Scot Power	1,100
EMI	1,100	Svrn Trent	164
Enterpr Oil	2,400	Shell Trans	5,600
GKN	2,900	Siebe	598
GRE	7,100	SmKl Bch	2,800
GUS	6,700	Smith Nph	1,700
Gen Acc	1,700	Smiths Inds	326
Gen Elec	4,700	Std Chartd	3,400
Glaxo Well	4,500	TI Gp	98,000
Granada	4,600	Tate & Lyle	3,100
Grand Met	4,300	Tesco	7,700
Guinness	5,000	Thames W	486
HSBC	3,900	Tomkins	8,000
Hanson	30,900	Unilever	3,500
ICI	3,900	Utd Utilities	586
Imp Tob	12,800	Utd News	325
Kingfisher	3,100	Vodafone	7,700
LASMO	1,300	Whitbread	392
Ladbroke	10,200	Wilms Hld	975
Land Secs	356	Wolseley	504
Legal & Gn	3,300	Zeneca	1,400

WALL STREET

	Oct 10 midday	Oct 9 close
AMP Inc	39½	39
AMR Corp	85½	82½
ASA	38⅞	38⅛
AT & T	59⅝	59⅞
Abbott Labs	49½	49⅝
Advanced Micro	15¼	15⅛
Aetna Life	67	67⅛
Ahmanson (HF)	29	28⅞
Air Prod & Chem	89	89¾
AirTouch Comm	26	26
Alberto-Culver B	43¼	44⅛
Albertson's	43½	43
Alcan Aluminium	30½	29⅝
Alco Standard	47⅞	47⅝
Allied Signal	65	64⅞
Aluminium Co of Am	58	55⅞
Amax Gold Inc	5⅛	5⅛
Amerada Hess	54⅛	54⅛
Amer Brands	47⅜	47½
Amer El Power	41¼	41⅞
Amer Express	46½	46⅝
Amer Genl Corp	38	38⅛
Amer Home Pr	82⅝	83
Amer Intl	102⅝	104½
Amer Stores	41¼	41⅞
Amer Standard	35⅛	35
Ameritech	55⅛	55⅞
Amoco	72⅝	73⅜
Anheuser-Busch	38⅜	38⅜
Apple Computer	24½	23
Archer Daniels	20	19⅝
Armco	4	4
Armstrong Wrld	63½	63⅞
Asarco	25	24⅜
Atl Richfield	124⅛	124⅜
Auto Data Pro	43⅞	43⅞
Avery Dennison	57⅛	57
Avon Products	49⅝	49⅝
Baker Hughes	32½	32½
Baltim Gas & El	25½	25½
Banc One	40⅝	40⅝
BankAmerica	85½	86⅛
Bank of NY	39⅝	39⅝
Bankers Tr NY	81½	81½
Barnett Banks	35⅜	35⅜
Bausch & Lomb	37½	36⅝
Bauer Intl	45	45⅝
Becton Dickinson	43⅝	43⅝
Bell Atlantic	59⅛	60
Bell Industries	16½	16½
BellSouth	37½	37⅝
Black & Decker	41	41¼
Block (H&R)	27⅝	27⅝
Boeing	97⅜	97½
Boise Cascade	33	33
Bristol Myrs Sq	98	97½
Browning Ferris	26	26¼
Brunswick	24⅜	24⅜
Burlington Nthrn	83⅜	83⅜
CMS Energy Corp	30⅞	30⅞
CNA Financial	92½	96⅛
CPC Intl	75⅜	75⅛
CSX	49½	49⅝
Campbell Soup	78⅜	78⅝
Can Pacific	23⅜	23⅜
Carolina Pwr	34⅛	34⅛
Caterpillar	72	71⅝
Central & SW	25⅝	25⅝
Champion Intl	43⅞	43⅞
Chase Manhat	80½	80⅝
Chevron Corp	94½	94⅝
Chrysler	51⅜	51⅜
Chubb Corp	48⅛	48⅛
Cigna Corp	124	124⅜
Cilicorp	91½	91½
Cinna	67½	67½
Coastal Corp	43⅞	44
Coca Cola	68⅝	68⅝
Coca Cola Ent	43½	43⅝
Colgate-Palmolive	82⅞	82⅞
Columbia Gas	58⅝	58½
ColumbiaHCA	45⅝	46
Compaq Comp	69½	68⅜
Comp Ass Int	61½	62
Compuserve	42⅝	40½
Conrail	99⅝	99⅞
Cons Edison	28½	28⅝
Cons Nat Gas	42	42
Cooper Inds	41½	41½
Coretalas	44½	44½
Corning Inc	37⅞	38½
Crown Cork	47½	47½
Dana Corp	41⅜	41⅜
Dayton Hudson	71½	71½
Deere	41½	41½
Delta Air Lines	70⅝	68½
Deluxe Corp	37½	37½
Digital Equip	34½	34½
Dillard Dept St	32⅝	32⅝
Disney (Walt)	63⅜	63⅜
Dominion Res	37⅞	38⅛
Dresser Inds	25½	25½
Du Pont	80⅛	80⅛
Duke Power	47½	47½
Dun & Bradstreet	80⅝	81½
Du Pont	64½	63⅞
Eastman Chem	54	54½
Eastman Kodak	75½	75½
Eaton Corp	58½	58⅞
Edison Int	18½	18½
Emerson Elec	89½	89½
Engelhard Corp

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

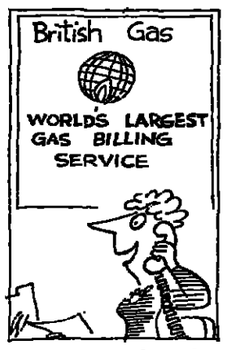
Initial thoughts on new Labour

ALASTAIR Ross Goobey, chief executive of Hermes Investment Management, was in ebullient mood as he opened the press conference to announce a new force in the UK pensions industry. Recalling his past attendances at Conservative party conferences as special adviser to the Chancellor during the late eighties and early nineties, he said: "This day ten years ago I was walking down the hill towards the conference centre with Nigel Lawson. I was working for him at the time and he was about to make his speech. Five years ago I was with Norman Lamont when I was working for him, and he was about to make his 'green shoots' speech. The only initials NL these days are new Labour, so I'm here instead."

Lens lament

A TOUCH of vanity yesterday from the ever so dapper Donald Gordon, chairman of Liberty International Holdings, as he delivered details of the deal with Hermes. Halfway through the speech, Gordon stopped, sighed and reached for his spectacles. "I am afraid I am going to have to use my glasses after all," he said, to ripples of laughter. Turning to press photographers, he sighed: "But I wish they wouldn't photograph me."

IN AN attempt to bring in the bucks before the opening of the extension to the Jubilee Line, Railtrack is renting out storage space under London Bridge Station for themed parties. At £70 per head for a three-course meal, or £55 per head for sparkling wine and canapes, partygoers can celebrate the Christmas season with Arabian musicians, a belly dancer, sand dancers, and a palm reader.



"... so no wonder we've sent you the world's largest gas bill"

Hole of the wall

HAVING failed to break open an automatic cash dispenser, even with the aid of an earth-moving mechanical digger, thieves in Estrees-Saint Denis, France, brought down the wall in which the cash box was set, and fled.

Good account

THE best looking, if not the most expensive, annual report has landed. It's a children's picture book by Adaptec, the Californian technology company, that tells the story of Molly, Wally, and their dog Data. Entitled *ABC3D (All About Being Connected to Data)*, the plot is a little complicated, but the colour pictures are great.

Right plaice

WHERE did John Major choose to celebrate his star turn at the Conservative party conference on Wednesday evening? After stripping down to his shirt sleeves during questions on the platform at Bournemouth, the Prime Minister and his wife set off for their reward — fish and chips *à deux* at Harry Ramsden's, a favourite of Arthur Scargill and Neil Kinnock. Fellow diners gave the couple a standing ovation.

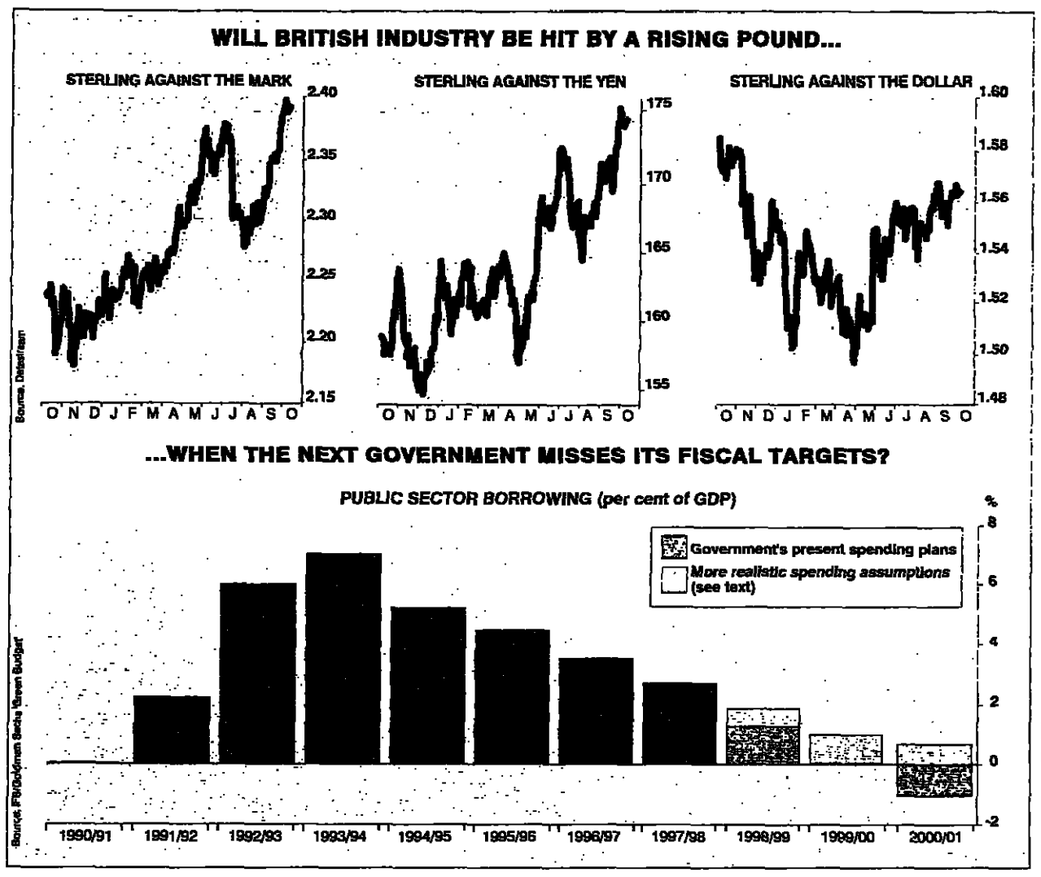
MORAG PRESTON

ECONOMIC VIEW — ANATOLE KALETSKY



Exporters should start their prayers before sterling soars

Britain's next Chancellor could be lulled into a false sense of security



Are the good times already over? Yesterday Kenneth Clarke told the Tories in Bournemouth that the British economy is "in its best condition ever in our lifetime", that "ours is the modern, enterprise model that others follow" and that John Major's Government had finally discovered "the recipe for national success". But with all due respect to the Chancellor, who has shown himself an able and generally honest steward of the nation's affairs, the last few items of objective information about the economy could hardly be called good news.

Yesterday we saw underlying inflation accelerating, albeit slightly. Last week, we had grim figures on manufacturing output which suggest that Britain's exporters are suffering not only from the weakness of the European economy but also from the recent recovery of the pound.

Last Friday there was the Bank of England's open demand for an increase in interest rates. There was more bad news on Wednesday in the annual Green Budget published by the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs. This showed that even the "modest" £2 billion to £3 billion of tax cuts expected from Mr Clarke would make Britain's long-term predicament considerably worse.

But the worst news of all has come from the place that is the burial ground for the reputations of British Chancellors — the foreign exchange market. Mr Clarke is only the second Chancellor since 1964 not to have had his policies ruined by a currency crisis (the other was Roy Jenkins). Judging by sterling's recent performance, however, the next Government, whatever its political stripe, could face a major problem with sterling — and it will be a problem that can partly be blamed on the tax cuts and public spending plans likely to be announced by Mr Clarke.

The problem I refer to is, of course, that the pound will be too strong. Regular readers of these columns will need no reminding that overly strong currencies have done far more economic damage over the years than unduly weak ones — not only was this true in Britain in the early 1980s and again in the ERM period, but also in America, Japan and most recently Germany and France.

The danger to Britain now is that sterling may be about to break out above the key "technical" level of £1 to DM2.40. This is an important resistance level in the charts used by most currency speculators and traders. In itself, it may seem no disaster. The trouble is that if the pound reaches DM2.50 before the general election, it could take off like a rocket after a stable new government is formed.

What makes the prospect of an overly-strong pound more than just a whimsical notion is the new mix of monetary and fiscal policies that the next British government is almost certain to adopt. Regardless of whether the next Prime Minister is Tony Blair or John Major, the next Chancellor is likely to find six Treasury briefing notes at the top of his in-tray when he sits down at his desk in Great George Street in May 1997. The items of news I mentioned at the start of this article suggest what these memos will be about.

First, the new Chancellor will see that inflation, while still moderate, is accelerating away from the 2.5 per cent target — with nothing in sight to suggest why this trend might spontaneously go into reverse. Secondly, he will find that consumer spending is growing strongly, even if manufacturing output remains disappointingly weak. Thirdly, he will be told that the Bank of England is clamouring even more stridently than before the election for an increase in base rates, and his Treasury team will advise him that the Governor has a point (*qv* earlier memos on inflation and consumer demand).

Fourthly, and most importantly, he will learn from his officials that the public finances are considerably worse than the Budget had projected. Every pre-election Budget in history has erred on the side of optimism about the trends in public spending and tax revenues. Even assuming that Mr Clarke resists completely the temptation to spice up his last Budget with a bit of creative accounting, the IFS Green Budget clearly suggests what is likely to go wrong.

The public spending plans laid out in the last Budget — which the Chancellor's Cabinet colleagues have probably agree to stick to in the summer expenditure review — assumed the lowest growth rate of real public expenditure achieved by any government in living memory. In fact, the planned total growth of real public spending in the three years from April 1996 onwards is only one eighth of the growth in the three years after the 1992 election and one quarter of the growth after the 1987 election. To believe that these ultra-ambitious targets would actually be hit by a Tory government returning to office is difficult.

To think that a new Labour government would feel absolutely bound by Tory plans which were so manifestly unrealistic would be stretching credulity to breaking point. By the time the election is over, it should be crystal clear that the public spending targets will be overshot. "That, Chancellor, is the bad news," the Permanent Secretary will tell him. "But these other two memos have some good news that should help to brighten up your first day in the job. This paper here shows that even with spending overshooting the last Government's targets, the budget deficit is not going to expand too much. The other memo is from the Bank of England. It says that their dealers are seeing heavy buy orders for sterling from New York, Zurich and Tokyo. So, as long as we don't make the Governor too angry and we don't let the vermin in the press get too excited about the overshoot in public spending, we won't have to worry about a run on the pound. With inflation and consumption rising, while the higher PSBR puts more pressure on the economy, there really is no alternative to taking the Governor's advice. We will have to raise interest rates. And with the kind of enthusiasm we're seeing for sterling assets, a bit of a monetary tightening will really do financial and consumer confidence no harm."

It will be at this point that the new Chancellor could be lulled into a false sense of security and the seeds for Britain's next economic crisis could be sown. The IFS Green Budget lays out some figures which suggest why the Chancellor might feel relaxed about the overshoot in public borrowing — and thereby do the economy permanent harm.

The Green Budget shows two scenarios for public borrowing (see bottom chart). The first is based on the present official asusmption that public spending will grow by only 0.75 per cent a year in real terms and will therefore shrink rapidly in relation to the economy. This would in theory reduce the PSBR to zero by 1999-2000 and produce a budget surplus the following year. The second scenario is based on the more realistic (though in my view still over-optimistic assumption) that public spending will grow at the economy's trend rate of real economic growth, assumed to be 2.25 per cent. If this happens, public spending and borrowing will still shrink as a proportion of GDP, since the economy should grow faster than 2.25 per cent in the next few years. But the deficit will contract to only 1.1 per cent of GDP in 1999-2000 and 0.6 per cent of GDP in 2000-01.

Because the overshoot in public spending and borrowing will be only moderate (at least at first), the new Government will see no reason to impose an immediate austerity plan in a post-election mini-Budget. Rather than finding new and unpopular cuts in public spending or breaking its election promise not to raise taxes, the Government will simply tolerate higher public borrowing. The financial markets, for their part, are hardly likely to panic at the sight of the sort of figures presented in the Green Budget. As long as the PSBR is still moving downwards — however slowly — confidence in sterling will certainly not be undermined.

On the contrary, the markets will see in Britain one of the very few countries in the world proposing to combine a moderate loosening of fiscal policy with a tightening of monetary policies. The markets have discovered that this policy mix can act as a sort of rocket fuel for currencies, capable of carrying them to undreamt of heights. If you are an exporter you should start praying that the next Chancellor wakes up before this happens to sterling — or think about an acquisition in Italy or France.

Old-World assault on New World

Tunku Varadarajan looks at a luxury goods company with family values

Enrique Loewe Lynch, a soft-voiced Spaniard of mixed Irish and German descent, has every reason to purr contentedly. Loewe, the Spanish leather goods, fashion and perfume company of whose board of directors he is chairman, has completed 150 years of elegant existence and is gearing itself up for a serious assault on the European and American markets.

With an annual turnover of $200 million and an enviable reputation for Old-World craftsmanship, Loewe (pronounced "low-ay-vay") was acquired earlier this year by Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy, the French luxury goods group that also owns Dior and Givenchy.

Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy, which had a 23 per cent stake in the company, is believed to have paid about $160 million for the 77 per cent needed to give it full ownership.

Yet Señor Loewe, the fourth generation of the German clan that established a small leather goods shop in Madrid's Calle Lobo in 1846, is determined that the company should still be seen as representing "family" values. He said: "We are a small team, with a sense of loyalty to our traditional methods, and LVMH will certainly not tamper with the essence of that image."

> "Its image is represented by the supermodels who adorn the fashion pages"

Loewe's glamorous image is best represented by Christy Turlington, Naomi Campbell, Yasmin Le Bon and the other supermodels who adorn the pages of the fashion magazines.

But such contemporary chic is created painstakingly by the company's 1,000 employees, many of them traditional craftsmen, who put together Loewe's distinctive products at workshops in Spain.

Señor Loewe said: "Many of our master-craftsmen are descended from fathers and grandfathers who worked with the company. I am not the only member of the long Loewe family."

Today Loewe's luxury goods are arguably the first examples since the Hispano-Suiza of a Spanish manufactured product being at the forefront of international quality. If the Hispano-Suiza was recognised at the turn of the century as one of the finest cars of its time, Loewe's leather goods, in particular its handbags, more than hold their own against Prada, Gucci and Vuitton.

The company's goods have a particularly devoted following in Japan and Hong Kong where the Loewe marque is sought avidly by gift-givers and receivers alike.

Yet of the 55 retail outlets outside Spain, run by Loewe International, the group's international distributor, the very first was set up in London in 1965 in Jermyn Street. The showroom was later moved to New Bond Street.

However, a vital market in which the company lacks a presence is America. An over-ambitious showroom, set up in New York's Trump Tower in 1983, failed for want of proper publicity and back-up.

But Loewe is determined to return to the New World and to break into the German and Italian markets. Señor Loewe said: "Italy is where we most want to sell our leather goods. We must get in there as a question of self-esteem. Leather is well understood by the Italians and I suppose there is the satisfaction of doing well in the lion's den."

Loewe has prospered by emphasising the Iberian origins of European leatherwork. Under Moorish rule, Cordoba was the main centre for production and Spain has always been known as the "kingdom of leather".

Yet the grey years when General Franco was in power took their toll and there is no doubt that the country today still suffers from an image problem in the international luxury market.

This has diminished substantially with Spain's reincorporation into the European mainstream and its adoption of western standards of quality control.

Señor Loewe said: "Our intention is to give Spain the image it deserves." He added: "Very few today know how to use 19th-century skills to cater to 20th-century tastes. But we are experts."

BUSINESS LETTERS

Gas safety liability issue leaves domestic users at risk

From Mr C. H. Morgans

Sir, Now that the Director-General of Ofgas has some time on her hands while the Monopolies and Mergers people decide whether the safety of the national gas grid is more important than 96p a week off domestic consumer bills, perhaps she could turn her attention to another much more important facet of gas consumer concern by sorting out the liability shambles created by contentious gas safety regulation, putting approximately 16 million domestic gas consumers into potential triple jeopardy in the event of any sort of combustion incident.

The problem arises because the Health and Safety Commission produced Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations with ACOP and other guidance notes under the Health and Safety at Work Act which clearly implicate private domestic consumers, and many trading in or with the PDC sector, in statutory prohibitions and duties which, as currently drafted, may be interpreted as across-the-board "law". The spanner in the works is plausible opinion that provisions under the Health and Safety at Work Act cannot be lawfully extended outside the limits of commercial employer/employee conditions or beyond the strict definition of business-to-business relationships.

The monumental and unacceptable ambiguity thus engendered puts a big question mark over liability and insurance factors for both domestic consumers and anyone else implicated in what may in fact still be a fundamentally "unregulated" private sector, requiring quite different protective "terms and conditions" to those which might apply if gas safety regulation was universally effective under civil as well as commercial law.

Right now everyone involved is in an invidious position, and the only potential beneficiary from the confusion is, wait for it ... the insurance industry.

If Mrs Spottiswoode can clear this one up she will have done more for consumers, artisans and national gas safety objectives than British Gas, the HSE and Corgi put together, though it is somehow doubted that the insurance industry will be giving her a £100,000 bonus.

Yours faithfully,
C. H. MORGANS,
Combustion Safety Assessment Services,
115 Woodcote Valley Road,
Purley, Surrey.

From Ms Sheila Widra

Sir, The British Gas fiasco continues! I have just received a red notice dated September 23, threatening supply cut-off unless I pay a bill for £130.24 outstanding since June 13. This, despite the fact that my bill for £105.27 was paid in June and I am currently in credit with British Gas for some £35. There has been no letter of apology and all telephone calls remain unanswered. Will I be able to trust the amount of the next bill?

Yours faithfully,
SHEILA WIDRA,
163 Covington Way, SW16.

Service hotline in working order

From Mr Paul Jacques

Sir, While I have every sympathy for Mr Ford (Business letters, October 4) I must in fairness to British Gas record my experiences of late.

On Friday, September 27 my boiler was failing to ignite. I telephoned British Gas early in the morning; an engineer called later that day and carried out a repair. Unfortunately the boiler failed again during the night and I had to call British Gas again on the Saturday. The engineer was there before midday, carried out a temporary repair and said that the part would be ordered. We have received information that the new part will be fitted this coming Friday.

I am not sure whether a reply to service numbers depends on the location but certainly British Gas cannot be faulted in this area.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL JACQUES,
80 Bilton Road,
Rugby, Warwickshire.

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Conran plans return to NY

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

SIR Terence Conran is planning a return to New York after years of absence with a restaurant and furniture store in a major new development to be built at the foot of Manhattan's Queensboro Bridge.

The new restaurant is the first he has planned outside Britain and represents an important development in Conran's international business expansion. Since his Storehouse group sold the furniture chain in New York several years ago he has shied away from new business ventures there, despite opening successful outlets in cities such as Paris and Tokyo. Last month he opened Conran shops in Hamburg, and Fukuoka in Japan.

Conran Holdings insiders said the problem had mainly been finding the right site in Manhattan. He plans a 10,000 square foot restaurant in the development which was this week given planning consent.

Conran is the most prestigious tenant in the large development known as the Bridgemarket, a former



Conran: expansion

fruit and vegetable market that has fallen into disrepair through years of neglect. The building's spectacular vaulted ceilings are more than 100 feet high. The plans are for the restaurant to float on a mezzanine floor, suspended at one end of the development. Next to it will be a Conran Shop.

The developer is Sheldon Gordon, the Las Vagas resort mogul who has waged a long campaign to be allowed to renovate the site. The scheme has been opposed for 20 years by residents of Sutton Place, an upmarket area of Manhattan inhabited by millionaires and celebrities. They fear an increase in traffic caused by the development would spoil the area.



STEVE FORREST

THE joint chief executives of David Brown Group, the specialist engineering company, have redefined their roles to fill the gap left by the abrupt departure this summer of Sir Terence Harrison, former non-executive chairman, after only six months in the job (Keith Rogers writes).

The company announced yesterday that Chris Cook, left, has taken over as chairman, with Chris Brown, right, appointed sole chief executive. It said payment for the balance of Sir Terence's three-year contract "won't be far short" of a six-figure sum.

David Brown reported a 33 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £8.7 million for the six months to August 2, on turnover up 28 per cent to £90.8 million. Earnings per share climbed 21 per cent to 9p, while the dividend, payable on November 21, was raised from 2.4p to 2.65p. The results, in line with expectations, reflected mixed conditions. Profits at the industrial gears division climbed 48 per cent, pumps profits jumped 63 per cent and profits in the mobile equipment drives business increased by 15 per cent.

American Ir£60m growth in Dublin fuels Irish jobs boom

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

JOHN BRUTON, the Irish Taoiseach, yesterday confirmed that 3Com, the American computer company, is to create 775 jobs in Dublin.

The company is to spend Ir£60 million to expand its research and manufacturing operations at its Blanchardstown plant on the outskirts of the city to bring the total workforce there to 1,200.

Earlier this week Fidelity Investments, one of the world's largest fund managers, said it wants to set up its new European technology headquarters in Dublin, creating 400 new jobs.

And Sandoz, the Swiss-based pharmaceutical company, announced a Ir£60 million investment to create a further 100 jobs at its manufacturing plant in Cork. The company already has a workforce of 250 at the site.

Dublin is awash with rumours of even bigger job announcements to come. One government source boasted: "Next week is shaping up very well indeed." The new investments are expected to be in the computer-related, tele-marketing and pharmaceutical sectors. The Industrial Development Association, Ireland's job-creation agency, has confirmed that it is close to signing an agreement with Citibank to create a 700-job administration centre in Dublin. The IDA is prepared to give the US bank Ir£5 million in grant aid to move all of its European back-office administration to Dublin.

If the move goes ahead it will mark the first major success of the IDA's new marketing campaign to persuade major international banking groups to centralise their European back-office activities in Ireland.

In spite of the fact that Ireland is now attracting more than 30 per cent of all new US manufacturing investment in Europe, and is making major advances in the financial services sector, its unemployment rate of 12.5 per cent is still one of the highest in Europe.

One of the reasons for the stubbornly high rate is the huge number of Irish people returning to take up the new jobs.

Fitness First to float on AIM next week

BY FRASER NELSON

FITNESS FIRST will become the first standalone health club chain to come to the market next Wednesday, when it floats on the Alternative Investment Market valued at £22 million.

The company has raised £8 million from the placing, which it will use to boost its portfolio of clubs from six to 25. It was formed in 1992 when Michael Balfour and Christopher Pearce, managing director and chairman, paid £800,000 for a Bournemouth health club, with private backing.

Sales have shot from £331,000 to £2.68 million since 1993 and the company broke into profit last year, making £504,000 before tax. Profits of £700,000 are expected in the year to October 31.

Mr Balfour and Mr Pearce will become paper millionaires: both retain a 16 per cent stake. Mr Pearce is also chief executive of Electrophoretics, an AIM-listed biochemical stock. Henderson Croswaite has placed ten million shares of Fitness First with institutions at 80p each, at the higher end of expectations.



Cassidy: costs warning

Downsizing by Ferguson lifts margins

FERGUSON International Holdings, which recently sold all but its label division, said yesterday that the divestment had boosted profitability and nearly eliminated debt (Fraser Nelson writes).

Pre-tax profits rose to £5.99 million (£5.63 million) in the six months to August 31, as margins recovered to 8.7 per cent (6.7 per cent). Earnings were 10.1p per share (8.5p), boosted by the sharp drop in interest payments. With borrowings at £2.02 million (£28.1 million), gearing fell to 6 per cent (76 per cent). The interim dividend is held at 4.5p.

Denis Cassidy, chairman, warned that cost savings would be slow, and were unlikely to have much influence on second-half trading.

Albert Fisher sale of AFD tops £73m

BY CLARE STEWART

ALBERT FISHER, the food distribution group, has finalised the long-awaited sale of AFD, its North American business, realising a higher than expected price.

It is to sell AFD for a total consideration of £73.5 million to a new company, set up by Rosecliff, a New York merchant bank. The deal comprises £57.5 million in cash and £16 million in loan notes. Albert Fisher will subscribe for 20 per cent of the equity at a cost of £3.2 million.

The disposal concludes the shake-up at Albert Fisher, which has seen it shift its focus to higher added-value businesses such as seafood, as well as food processing in the UK.

The group said that further expansion of AFD's distribution business in the US would require more acquisitions, a strategy that would conflict with its planned development of River Ranch, its fresh and prepared foods arm in the US, which it believes has huge growth potential.

AFD, which is made up of 25 companies in the US and Canada, made profits of £5 million in the year to August, on total sales of £382.3 million.

Year-end results from Albert Fisher are due next week and analysts are looking for pre-tax profits before exceptional items of around £41 million, up from £39.5 million in 1995.

The US disposal will increase the level of exceptional items, however, to around £150 million for the year after taking on board a large amount of reversible goodwill. Gearing is expected to fall from around 90 per cent to 60 per cent.

Australia abandons Skase asset chase

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

ONE OF Australia's most-notorious bankrupts was at the centre of a controversy yesterday when the Attorney-General announced that the four-year battle to recover his assets had been abandoned.

Christopher Skase, a colourful entrepreneur who, with Alan Bond, epitomised the excesses of the 1980s, fled Australia in 1994 owing more than A$2 billion (£1.01 billion) after the collapse of his Qintex media and tourism empire. He has been living in Majorca ever since.

A spokesman for Daryl Williams, the Attorney-General, said that the pursuit of Skase's assets, which has cost the Australian Government almost A$15 million (£7.8m), had been called off because "there were no reasonable prospects that further litigation would result in any return to creditors even if it was successful". But John Howard, Prime Minister, said: "The decision was taken, so I am advised, without prior reference to the Government." He called Skase's actions "an obscenity in the eyes of average Australians", and said he had ordered the Attorney-General to advise him how the decision to abandon the chase could be reversed.

Skase, a former journalist, built a business empire that at its peak bid unsuccessfully for MGM/United, the Hollywood studio. He is believed to have fled to Spain with cash, jewellery and art worth up to A$10 million despite declaring himself bankrupt in 1991 with assets of just A$5,000.

An attempt by Canberra to extradite him from Spain failed spectacularly when the Spanish authorities ruled Skase was too unwell to travel after he appeared in court using an oxygen mask. Days later, he was filmed running along a beach and has repeatedly been spotted looking well.

Skase faces charges of 32 breaches of corporation law in Australia alleging that he misused company funds.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Maunders payout held after downturn

JOHN MAUNDERS GROUP, the housebuilder with operations in the North West, the Midlands and the south of England, is holding the total dividend at 5.7p a share after suffering a downturn in profits to £4.5 million before tax from £7 million in the year to June 30. The company said that the results reflected the difficult trading conditions that prevailed for much of the year. Although conditions had improved in the South since spring, a recovery had yet to be felt in other parts of the country. Earnings fell to 12.07p a share from 18.82p. The final dividend is held at 3.25p a share, due on November 28. The shares were unchanged at 193½p.

The company reported that turnover fell to £67.8 million from £76 million, with the number of completions dropping to 1,001 from 1,089. The average selling price of homes fell slightly to £68,000 from £70,000. A part-exchange facility was used in respect of 34 per cent of house sales, against 25 per cent previously. The bank value of Maunders's land rose to £34.4 million from £31.9 million, representing 1,800 plots, with a further 570 under contract. The company maintains a land supply to meet demand for the next 30 months. John Maunders, chairman, said that current land prices, particularly in the South, were too high in relation to the eventual selling price of new homes.

Richards Group halted

SHARES of Richards Group, the engineering company based in Birmingham, were suspended at 8½p yesterday, pending clarification of its financial position. Richards, which incurred pre-tax losses of £1.68 million on sales of £19.86 million in 1995, supplies products to a variety of industries, including oil, petrochemicals, electricity, foundries and mining. It said a further announcement to clarify the situation would be made as soon as possible. The shares have fallen sharply from a 1996 high of 36p.

Aetna cutting 4,400 jobs

AETNA INC, the American insurance and financial services company, is to shed 4,400 jobs in the restructuring of its healthcare and retirement services subsidiaries at a cost of $307 million. Aetna plans a third-quarter charge of $32 million and a fourth-quarter charge of $275 million. The restructuring follows the acquisition of US Healthcare earlier this year. Aetna said that a total of 7,500 jobs would be lost but expect this to be partly offset by the creation of jobs in other areas, such as sales and marketing.

LIG to shut US plant

LONDON INTERNATIONAL GROUP is to close its condom manufacturing plant at Anderson, South Carolina, and cut about 200 permanent and 150 temporary jobs over the next 12 months. All manufacturing from the Anderson factory will move to LIG's plant in Alabama. Total costs of the closure and other restructuring in America are to be met from existing provisions, which include the additional provision of £8 million notified over the purchase in May of Aladan, a US manufacturer of condoms and gloves, for £46 million.

Beauford buying VZS

BEAUFORD is disposing of Bradford Engineers, its last engineering business, to Motherwell Bridge Holdings for £1.8 million and acquiring a second ceramics company in its corporate refocusing. It is buying VZS Group, formed through a management buyout from Cookson Group in 1994, for £4 million. In 1995 VZS earned £512,059 before tax on turnover of £3.26 million. Beauford announced interim pre-tax profits of £606,000 (£545,000). Adjusted earnings stayed at 1.03p a share. Interim dividend is 0.25p a share (0.2p).

JKX ahead in Ukraine

JKX Oil and Gas, the exploration company with interests in the former Soviet Union, produced 5,700 barrels of oil per day during the first six months of the year, mainly from the Novo-Nikolaevskoye field in Poltava, Ukraine. It made an interim pre-tax loss of £1.2 million (£484,000 loss) but said the Poltava project and Ninotsminda field in Georgia were now producing hard-currency income. In addition, the company was negotiating with major gas distributors to co-operate in downstream activities in the Ukraine. There is no dividend.

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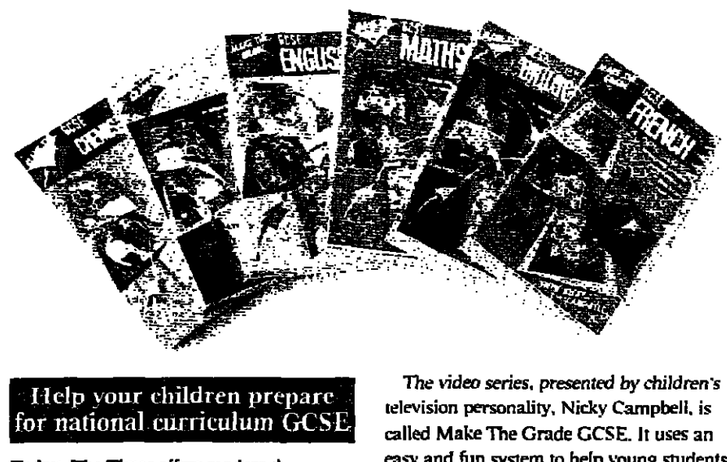
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CHANGING TIMES

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General Acc	683.00	726.60†	- 3.30	2.47
General Inc	570.00	606.40†	- 2.80	2.41
Uk Growth Acc	466.40	496.30	- 2.20	2.57
Uk Growth Inc	393.10	322.50	- 1.50	2.57
Higher Inc Acc	612.60	654.50	- 1.70	4.02
Higher Inc Inc	432.80	460.50	- 1.00	4.02
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	215.00	227.10†	- 1.50	5.74
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.13	99.42†	- 0.57	5.74
Nth America	388.80	413.70	- 1.50	.
Europa	367.90	391.40†	- 3.20	0.39
Pac Excel	92.53	98.44	- 0.50	2.71
Brit Fndmtls Acc	116.70	124.20†	- 0.20	4.51
Brit Fndmtls Inc	78.02	83.01†	- 0.18	4.51
Global Opps	105.80	112.60	- 0.30	0.05
Balanced Inc	84.20	68.44†	- 0.24	2.63
Balanced Inc	60.00	63.84†	- 0.23	2.63
Japan Acc	44.57	47.42†	.	.
Pac Basin Acc	466.50	431.40	- 0.80	0.99

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
03345 717 373

Gilts & Fixed Int	122.80	141.10†	- 0.30	6.92
High Inc Equity	183.90	196.70†	.	4.56
Worldwide Bond	298.00	303.30	- 0.70	4.85
American Growth	393.00	421.10	- 1.40	0.30
Asian Pacific	327.20	349.90	- 0.70	0.04
Access & Earnings	313.70	335.50	- 0.80	3.99
Euro Capital Acc	190.80	204.10	- 1.00	0.76
Euro Inc	43.50	46.37†	- 0.13	7.73
General	287.70	306.10	- 0.40	2.87
Global Opps	70.16	74.64	- 0.26	0.54
Japan	114.60	122.90	+ 0.10	.
Managed Inc	46.64	47.74†	- 0.09	4.64
Maidenhead	171.70	183.60	- 0.60	1.00
US Emerging Cos	221.10	235.20	- 0.20	.
Ethical	82.46	87.72	+ 0.08	2.13
International	440.20	468.20	- 1.50	0.29
Dividend & Growth	69.86	73.26	- 0.01	4.19
Global Gilts & Soc	73.45	78.45	- 0.03	2.33
Latin America	68.05	72.40	+ 0.03	.
Capital Reserve	145.70	145.70	- 0.10	4.80

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

Uk Small Cos	2365.00	2492.00	+ 1.00	.

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 388

Amer Inc & Growth	62.34	64.74†	- 0.43	0.15
Emerging Mkts	74.31	78.41	+ 0.05	0.04
European	153.90	159.70	- 0.70	.
Exempt	1109.00	1171.00†	+ 1.00	1.59
Extra Income #	46.87	50.01†	- 0.03	6.50
Far East Emrg Econ	131.60	138.00	- 0.40	0.45
Fixed Interest #	25.76	26.79	+ 0.04	6.87
Fund Inv Tst	753.10	800.69†	- 0.50	9.56
Japan	176.50	183.50	+ 0.10	.
Latin American	62.51	65.76	+ 0.01	0.75
Pacific	85.41	89.69	- 0.22	0.29
Property Share	71.70	75.27	- 0.23	2.33
UK Emerging Cos	71.34	77.11	+ 0.07	1.25
UK Growth	54.53	57.48†	- 0.16	2.04
Aber World Pref #	83.99	85.23	- 0.23	3.38
Ethical	37.82	39.96	- 0.13	2.16
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	51.09	51.11†	+ 0.13	7.25

For ABSON see Matheson

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 256 5868

Restrl Property #	98.12	105.60	.	5.30

ALLCHURCHES' INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

Amdly Income	91.79	97.39†	- 0.34	2.25
Income Builder Inc	85.24	87.49	- 0.04	4.19

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01788 610 366 Client dlg: 01788 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	389.40	389.30†	- 0.70	3.00
Capital	507.10	542.00†	- 1.10	1.16
Balanced	846.10	904.40	- 2.00	2.30
Accumulation	1629.00	1739.00†	- 3.00	1.79
Income Trusts				
Reversion Income	62.54	66.69†	- 0.22	2.48
High Income	462.90	494.80†	- 1.40	3.82
Equity Income	364.60	382.30	- 0.60	3.94
High Yield	386.30	406.00	- 0.60	3.93
Gilt Securities	34.25	36.160†	- 0.35	6.04
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	219.30	234.30†	- 0.30	0.05
European Growth	54.47	58.02†	- 0.43	0.07
International	190.40	203.50	- 0.30	0.11
Japan	197.80	211.50	- 0.09	4.64
Pacific	415.60	444.20	+ 0.10	.
Spec Sit America	606.30	645.60	- 01.10	0.12
Wrldwide Assn Val	56.92	60.840	- 0.11	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	653.60	697.60	- 1.00	1.96
Cons & Gilt	50.50	53.980	- 0.07	3.93
Smaller Cos	208.90	222.60	- 1.10	1.02
2nd Smaller Cos	197.50	211.10†	- 0.90	0.87
Recovery	173.30	185.30†	- 0.40	1.52
Mer Mkt & Cstly	167.20	178.30	- 0.20	0.17
Quest Earnings	433.50	463.40	- 0.90	1.05
Technology	334.70	350.80†	+ 0.80	.
UK Special Sits	590.00	630.70†	- 0.30	0.99

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 525 911

Cntrstd Dst Pens	120.20	124.80	.	3.04
Foundtn Pens Pens	71.09	73.85	.	1.44

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0033

Capital	85.05	91.54	- 0.60	1.29
International	71.39	75.94	.	.

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

American	365.30	379.70†	+ 0.40	.
Bond	119.80	126.60†	+ 0.20	6.63
Brit Smlr Cos	118.90	126.50	- 0.30	1.77
Conv & Gen #	70.25	74.74	- 0.17	5.23
Europe	299.90	306.70	- 3.60	0.58
Euro Smlr Cos	127.40	135.20	- 0.80	0.58
Income Genh	367.90	391.40†	- 1.50	4.85
Japan	308.90	328.20†	.	.
Latin American	88.64	94.30	- 0.28	0.74
Pacific	115.30	122.60	- 0.60	0.99
UK Smlr Cos	52.77	83.99	- 0.10	1.26
Japan Fd	642.90	667.80	+ 0.10	.
Managd Fd	205.30	218.00	- 1.80	2.76

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 489 9573

Bnd & Dpsts	376.30	398.00	- 3.20	0.89
Capital Gwth	130.60	138.10	+ 0.80	3.13
Wrldw Opps	221.80	234.60	- 3.30	0.93

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 932 4000

Balanced Trusts				
Bst Inv Pd Inc	440.10	460.50	- 1.80	2.34
European Bd Inc	98.47	101.90	+ 0.20	6.62
Exempt	95.10	100.05	- 0.26	2.77
500	511.80	556.30†	- 0.90	2.37
General	330.70	353.90†	- 1.20	3.50
Property	245.60	263.50	.	5.20
Tracker	230.50	246.90	- 1.00	2.51
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10†	.	5.11
Distribution @ #	114.40	115.00†	- 0.10	5.89
Extra Income #	157.60	147.10†	- 0.20	8.17
Gilt & Fixd Int	29.54	31.62†	+ 0.11	7.72
Income @	599.30	630.60	- 1.80	4.54
Income Builder #	70.00	74.67†	- 0.10	5.27
Intl Income	72.01	76.81	- 0.41	2.62
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	144.60	154.80	- 0.80	1.96
FTSE 100	102.90	109.40	- 0.70	2.58
Leisure	180.30	192.80	- 0.40	0.73
Recovery	501.80	536.50	- 2.00	2.63
Smlr Cos Inc	58.15	63.44	- 0.09	2.28
Special Sits	401.40	430.00	- 1.30	1.31
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	176.80	187.70	- 1.20	0.40
F East Exclu Jpn Acc	269.50	309.60	+ 1.80	2.82
Far East Exclu Jpn	170.00	184.80	+ 0.80	2.82
Euro Exclu Inc	187.50	208.70	- 1.50	0.43
-do- Accum	214.70	228.00	- 2.10	0.43
Japan	146.10	155.20	+ 0.10	.
-do- Accum	147.30	157.00	+ 0.10	.
Japan Spec Sits	68.30	72.75	- 0.60	.
Worldwide	201.50	214.00	- 1.10	0.46

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0117 214 1004

American Growth	136.50	144.20	- 0.80	.
Amer Smlr Cos	174.30	185.50	- 0.20	.
Convertibles	60.78	65.02†	+ 0.03	4.60
Eastern	303.10	325.80	+ 0.20	0.30
Equity Income #	160.50	167.50	- 0.20	4.29
European Growth	365.30	389.60	- 3.90	0.80
Europe	366.30	391.00	- 3.10	0.80
Gennesis Growth	89.44	94.85	- 0.43	0.50
Global Bond	72.76	76.56	+ 0.04	6.02
Global Growth	149.30	158.80	- 0.60	0.49
Japan Growth	192.80	205.10	- 0.10	.
Japan Smaller	157.90	167.60	- 0.10	.
Korea Invst	85.22	70.38	+ 1.14	.
Portfolio	149.30	158.40†	- 0.20	2.00
-do- Accum	280.90	300.20	- 1.00	2.00
UK Growth	107.20	115.00	- 0.30	2.60
UK Smaller Cos	98.97	107.20	- 0.10	1.90
Select Manager	90.56	97.11	- 0.28	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3000

Intl Gwth Port Inc	92.24	98.13	.	.
Special Opps Inc	61.29	65.20	.	.

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
01481 223 0020

Balanced Growth	143.17	151.50†	- 0.89	1.46
-do- Accum	166.66	176.36	- 0.80	1.46
Smaller Cos	156.63	165.75	- 0.26	0.68
Higher Yield #	97.92	61.29†	- 0.04	4.08
American Gth Inc	104.56	110.67	- 1.03	.
European Growth	170.81	180.75†	- 1.30	.
-do- Accum	174.25	184.39	- 1.32	.
Global Bond Inc #	26.18	27.73	+ 0.01	4.52
Managd Profile Inc	53.93	57.05†	- 0.18	1.40
-do- Accum	55.97	59.20	- 0.19	1.40
Int Spec Opps	166.83	176.66	- 0.63	.
Pacific Gdn	146.57	155.10	- 0.30	.
UK General #	97.56	103.22	- 0.17	2.77
-do- Accum #	104.35	110.44	- 0.18	2.77
Japan	56.95	60.27	- 0.04	.
Gilt & Fixed Int #	102.50	106.22†	+ 0.41	6.28

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7216

Shtsn Dstrct Gilt	67.15	68.01	.	6.39

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5080

Environ	193.10	202.70	- 0.60	1.74
Uk Growth	215.70	226.40	- 0.80	1.58
Uk Income	149.60	157.10†	- 0.45	4.48

CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD
01767 622 100

Can Gen Dist	238.60	252.90	- 1.00	1.57
-do- Income Dist	129.10	135.80	- 0.30	3.66
-do- Accum	414.30	439.10	- 0.90	3.66
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.49	43.60	- 0.18	6.24
Growth Units	258.40	276.20†	- 1.10	2.04
Bond	178.10	187.40†	+ 0.40	6.80
Intl Growth	348.70	369.60	- 1.00	0.16
North American	264.90	282.00	- 1.00	0.16
Far East	387.30	328.70	- 0.20	0.61
Uk Smaller Cos	224.30	339.90	- 0.10	0.97
European	99.11	105.00	- 0.80	0.61
Japanese Growth	45.79	48.60	+ 0.02	.
High Income	221.30	236.50†	- 0.80	4.24

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455

American & East	226.30	240.30†	- 1.20	.
European Inc	96.55	102.35†	- 0.44	0.47
Smaller Cos (4-1)	109.40	116.40†	- 0.10	1.51
Growth	555.10	590.60†	- 2.20	1.76
Income & Growth #	463.60	493.20	- 1.20	3.83
-do- Accum #	700.80	745.60†	- 1.80	3.82
Japan & East	65.49	69.46	- 0.09	.
Master Portfolio	1122.57	1139.60†	-49.00	1.80
-do- Accum	9151.53	1156.52	-51.00	1.80
Special Sits	130.00	138.30	- 0.40	1.79
High Yield	615.18	615.65	- 3.00	4.23

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0700

Cazenove Portfolio	103.41	110.35	- 0.38	2.31
American Portfolio	125.56	133.44	- 0.68	0.77
European Portfolio	137.22	145.98†	- 1.17	0.86
High Income	53.01	53.14	- 0.24	6.91
Japanese Portfolio	67.03	71.18	+ 0.17	.
Pacific Portfolio	159.15	171.13	- 0.12	1.28
UK Equity	97.83	104.65†	- 0.42	3.03
UK Equity & Bd	99.26	82.79	- 0.14	6.08

CENT BD OF FRI OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

Inv Fund	787.27	799.17	.	4.18
Fxd Int Sec	158.00	158.72	.	9.01

CGNF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

Investment Inc	174.86	186.50	.	4.23
Investment Acc	205.72	218.26	.	.
Fixed Int Inc	126.66	127.19	.	9.12
Fixed Int Acc	230.87	231.79	.	.

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 588 1815

Recovery Inc	91.70	96.65†	.	2.97
Recovery Acc	46.48	98.16	- 0.10	.
Accm Ethical Tst	100.57	106.80	.	0.43
City Fin Assets	82.68	88.82†	.	1.51
City Fin America	112.35	117.96	.	.
City Fin Intl	93.40	98.66	.	0.44
City Fin Japan	149.29	142.31	.	.
Finans Hon Cap	331.72	352.90	.	2.40
Barclay World Gwth	145.19	153.90†	.	.
J Std Inc/Gth Inc	56.48	59.31	- 0.15	3.25
Shsn Utilities	56.51	57.60	- 0.18	6.32

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300
Emerging Markets 57.45 60.86 - 0.35

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
03457 72 233

American Gwth	82.71	87.98	- 0.61	.
Dragon Growth	72.39	77.40	- 0.30	0.65
Equity High Inc	90.07	95.48†	- 0.72	4.03
-do- Accum	1.30.37	139.56	- 0.40	4.03
Extra Income Inc	36.68	38.11†	+ 0.04	7.26
Extra Income Acc	70.38	30.94	+ 0.04	7.26
European Gwth	64.25	68.17	- 0.72	0.89
Exempt	32.17	34.49	- 0.14	0.00
General Equity	105.47	111.90	- 0.49	2.92
Japan Growth	48.36	51.45	.	.
Pacific Gwth	65.48	69.64	- 0.24	2.37
Prd Shr Cos Inc	39.57	41.93	- 0.06	1.47
Prd Shr Cos Acc	46.96	49.47	- 0.06	1.47
Retirement Inc #	57.99	59.78	- 0.06	5.73
Special Sits	47.37	50.39	- 0.19	2.39
UK & Overseas	60.57	64.26	- 0.19	0.89

COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 856 000

Balanced	70.39	73.32	- 0.20	4.12
Capital	84.48	87.99	- 0.34	2.60
High Income	52.72	54.91	- 0.04	6.61
Top 50	56.88	59.24	- 0.12	2.56

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD
0191 285 0918
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	195.15	203.28†	+ 0.20	4.55
Long Gilt	43.64	45.43†	- 0.36	6.05
Monthly Inc Plus	50.21	52.30†	- 0.03	6.57
Preference Share	46.94	48.90†	- 0.25	7.97
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	141.96	147.88†	- 0.15	5.77
Managed Fund	78.03	81.29†	- 0.19	2.68
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	53.62	55.85	- 0.03	1.70
-do- Accum	63.38	65.97	- 0.02	1.70
UK & General	98.54	102.65†	- 0.26	2.88
UK Growth	125.93	131.09†	- 0.47	2.96
UK Growth	198.08	206.33	- 0.56	1.36
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	214.42	223.35	- 1.07	0.65
Far Eastern Gwth	137.19	142.91	- 0.07	0.00
Global Bond	80.73	84.16†	+ 0.01	5.89
Japan Growth	110.69	115.30	+ 0.14	.
North Amer Gwth	242.26	252.35	- 1.25	.
Oriental Growth	85.21	88.78	- 0.27	0.26
Worldwide Growth	74.70	77.81	- 0.24	.
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.53	91.53†	+ 0.01	5.11
Homemaker Fund	92.67	98.59	- 0.26	1.53
Unitfer Fund	158.45	168.56	- 0.70	1.89

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 407 5999

Consistent Ut	35.19	38.70	+ 0.10	4.29

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 356

Growth	180.30	191.80	- 0.60	1.94
Income	73.38	78.05	- 0.41	4.64
European	76.24	81.11	- 0.69	1.16
Recovery	191.80	204.00	+ 0.30	2.22

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 263 9494

Equity Dist	995.30	1011.30	.	3.38

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 370

Fellowship Tst	112.10	119.20†	+ 0.10	1.15
Income #	294.70	313.50	- 1.00	4.04
-do- Accum #	171.30	820.50	- 2.60	4.04
Smaller Cos	237.70	252.80	- 0.60	0.65
-do- Accum	255.10	313.80	- 0.70	0.65
Gth Portfolio	103.80	110.40	- 0.50	1.28
High Inc Port #	84.69	90.05	- 0.28	4.22

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
0171 470 1634

Euro Small Cos	1709.20	1757.60	+24.80	.
Japan Small Cos	1163.20	1182.90	-32.70	0.01
UK Small Cos	2217.60	2312.30	- 0.70	2.86
US Small Cos	2165.20	2260.10	- 1.00	0.83

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 377 8819

Disc Inc	232.80	245.00	.	3.05

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 527 595

UK Balanced Inc	174.70	185.80	- 0.70	1.74
UK High Inc Inc	182.40	194.00	- 0.70	3.67
-do- Accum	246.40	262.10	- 0.80	3.67
UK Pref & FI Inc	80.86	84.37	+ 0.04	5.75
Government Opps	99.17	105.50	- 0.10	0.95
UK Smlr Cos #	70.38	74.87	- 0.10	0.80
Extra Income Inc	50.04	53.23	+ 0.06	7.80

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 090 525

American	178.70	189.30	- 1.10	0.42
Cnvrsn/Divs #	23.37	24.83†	- 0.01	5.64
Equity Income #	144.40	153.40†	- 1.00	3.91
Eurofund	84.36	88.10	- 0.74	0.59
Financial	56.75	60.34†	- 0.19	1.49
Growth & Inc #	252.90	311.20	- 1.70	2.51
High Dist #	183.20	194.70	- 0.80	4.37
International	441.30	468.80	- 1.70	0.11
Inv Cap Inc	105.00	112.10†	- 0.70	2.41
Latin American	34.15	36.28	+ 0.07	.
Pacific	82.27	87.41†	- 0.09	.
Pref High Inc	72.36	73.78†	- 0.06	7.57
Tokyo	217.50	230.30†	+ 0.30	.
UK Smaller Cos	257.50	273.60	- 0.50	1.10
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
European Growth	340.60	358.70	- 3.20	1.00
Jap Smlr Cos	435.30	462.00	+ 0.50	.
Nth Amer	432.10	458.10	- 1.80	0.64
Uk Inc & Grth	252.28	270.00†	- 0.60	2.75

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
0171 242 0242

Brit Director Dlgs	119.52	127.83	+ 1.68	1.10
Growth Acc	261.60	278.64	+ 3.66	0.25
Income	615.59	656.36	+ 1.55	6.08

ENDOWFUND FUND MGMT LTD
0171 373 7251

Endowfund Fd	230.30	245.00†	- 0.70	0.55

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
01296 431 480

European	92.62	97.70	- 0.53	2.10
Ethical Tst	48.45	51.00	- 0.16	0.66
Far Eastern	307.05	323.21	+ 0.69	1.52
High Income	142.33	149.82	- 0.16	4.85
UK Index Tracking	51.79	54.52	- 0.05	3.19
Intl Growth	145.67	153.34	+ 0.21	0.38
North American	180.19	189.68†	- 1.26	1.65
Pacific	147.30	149.92†	- 0.41	0.23
Smaller Cos	72.76	76.59	- 0.31	2.83
Special Sits	91.55	96.37†	+ 0.37	2.46
1st of Ian Tst	230.20	231.79	- 0.35	1.26

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 407 5999

Smaller Cos Inc	235.40	250.40†	- 0.29	1.49
Smaller Cos Acc	425.00	452.10†	- 0.53	1.49
Recovery	59.76	62.54	.	1.70
Recovery Acc	60.72	64.60	+ 0.01	1.70

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144

Capital Growth	94.26	101.08†	- 0.04	.
Fd of Inv Tst	53.20	56.75	- 0.10	0.51
High Income #	38.76	41.54†	+ 0.01	11.07
Wurcam	48.32	51.54†	- 0.04	.
Zero Preference	45.10	47.85	+ 0.05	.

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
01273 220 707

Family Assct Tst	94.57	100.60†	- 0.20	2.60
United Charities	313.60	333.60†	+0.000	2.36

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
Callines: Private Clients: 0800 414 181

Cash Fund				
Cash Extra	100.00	100.00	.	5.30
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	29.21	30.31	.	5.14
Strategic Inc	37.37	39.61	- 0.02	5.68
Income Funds				
High Income	35.90	38.35†	- 0.05	5.46
Income Plus	132.60	141.00†	- 0.60	3.50
European Income	90.45	93.69	- 0.35	2.53
Uk Dm Gilt	31.74	33.75†	- 0.00	2.22
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	80.58	85.05	- 0.90	.
American	331.90	351.60	- 1.40	.
Amer Spec Sits	190.10	202.60	- 0.80	.
Japan Smaller Cos	30.40	35.56	- 0.01	.
European	233.10	248.60†	- 1.40	0.55
European Opps	82.19	87.40	- 0.66	0.62
Global Priv	31.07	33.04	- 0.20	0.34
UK Growth	124.10	132.00	.	1.46
Growth & Inc	179.70	191.10	- 0.70	2.43
Intl PEP	48.60	51.68	- 0.20	1.05
Japan Spec Sits	87.65	93.17	+ 0.04	.
Japan	174.60	185.70	+ 0.10	.
Managed Intl	259.30	301.40	- 1.80	0.49
Moneybuilder	97.55	71.83	- 0.19	.
Recovery	62.74	66.71	.	1.62
South E Asia	188.20	200.40†	- 0.20	0.97
Special Sits	731.10	777.40†	- 0.20	0.57
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	116.11	116.11	+ 0.01	5.30

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 814 2700

Balanced #	152.40	155.10†	.	1.54
Flexicorp Pf Inc #	96.77	98.66†	- 0.30	2.82
Cap Plyfio	167.00	169.60	- 0.90	0.84
Selected Opps	148.13	149.70	.	3.91
Growth Inc	38.17	38.80	- 0.09	0.94
Private Portfolio	495.40	504.80†	.	0.67

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Dlg 01277 680 388 Admin/Vol 01277 680 350

Euro Smlr Cos	154.20	164.00	- 1.00	0.38
Emrg Asian	138.90	182.60†	+ 0.20	.
High Income	21.39	22.73†	- 0.11	9.50
UK Income	115.40	123.10	- 0.40	4.01
US Smaller Cos	437.40	466.30†	- 2.70	.

For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter

FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
Enq 0171 330 9500 Dealing 0345 775511

American Growth	80.01	85.33	- 0.60	.
-do- Accum	83.01	88.53	- 0.69	.
Amer Smlr Cos	122.40	172.60†	+ 0.10	1.50
European Portfolio	137.22	146.98†	- 1.17	0.86
High Income	53.01	53.14	- 0.24	6.91
Japanese Portfolio	67.03	71.18	+ 0.17	.
Pacific Portfolio	159.15	171.13	- 0.12	1.28
UK Equity	97.83	104.65†	- 0.42	3.03
UK Equity & Bd	99.26	82.79	- 0.14	6.08

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing 01722 715836 Enq 01722 715834

FP American	62.95	67.12	- 0.38	0.47
FP Am Smlr Cos	216.50	230.90	- 1.20	.
FP Asian Growth	283.10	301.90	- 1.40	.
FP Far Eastern	434.30	462.90†	- 1.90	2.40
FP Equity Dist	466.10	497.10	- 1.90	2.40
-do- Accum	610.28	610.96	- 4.00	2.40
FP Euro Gth	300.30	312.80	- 2.50	.
-do- Accum	320.80	342.10	- 2.60	.
FP Intl Bond	65.41	69.92	+ 0.04	4.41
FP Intl Gth Dist	38.67	41.45	+ 0.15	0.13
-do- Accum	56.75	60.53	- 0.22	0.13
FP Pac Basin Acc	221.00	236.70†	.	.
FP Income #	68.17	64.18

هكذا من الاصل

Equities and gilts lower

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	419	Allied Domecq	424½	-	6.7	16.6
625	417	Bulmer (H.P.)	517½	- 5	3.2	17.3
131	81	Burn Stewart	92	- 1½	3.6	17.7
775	615	Chateau Genepa A	755		7.0	19.3
491½	411	Grand Met	473½	- 3	4.0	13.5
493	433	Guinness†	445	- 1	4.3	15.8
378	319	Highland Dist	342½		2.9	15.9
933	777½	Matthew Clark	814	- 25	9.6	15.0
141	93	Scottish & N	113		3.0	10.3
2612½	1636	SA Breweries	1709½	- 18½	2.1	

BANKS

3716½	2743½	ABSA (ABAR)	3584½	66½	2.7	12.7
663	528	Abbey Nat	596½	- 8	6.9	11.0
386	315	Alliad Irish	382½		4.7	11.0
374½	285	Anz Bkg Grp 2	370½	+ 3½	3.0	9.1
5540½	3843½	Bank America†	5521	+ 21½		
376	302½	Bank Scotland	374½		3.4	10.0
976	683	Barclays	953	16½	3.7	10.4
5109	413	Bk of Ireland	510	- ½	3.7	11.7
482	378	Cater Allen	3669		5.7	11.5
5668½	4031½	Citicorp	5662½			
382	307½	Close Bros	378½		3.8	13.2
1575	1316½	Commercial	1446½		3.5	
1258	1088½	Dib Ice Kap Yl	1092½	- 6½	0.5	
3412½	2960	Deutsche Bk	3066½	- 31½	2.5	
806½	593½	Espirito Santo	800		6.4	10.8
1507	1172½	Fuji Bank ¥	1359½	- ½	0.4	
472	396	Gerrard Nat	396	- 1½	9.7	9.3
2627½	196	Hambros	258	- 1	3.6	
1790	951	HSBC	1751	- 5½	3.8	11.8
1231½	930	HSBC HK	1212½	- 9½	3.9	11.5
466½	385	Irish Perm†	427½		3.1	12.8
177	143	King Shaxson	162½		6.9	14.1
458	405	Lloyds ‡	455		5.4	16.5
404	294½	Lloyds TSB†	399	- 2½	3.8	16.9
653	566	Nat Aust Pk	639½		2.0	8.0
714	602	Nat West	699	- 9½	4.7	10.8
67	49½	Rea Brothers	65		1.9	12.5
596	464	Rpl Bk Scot	535½	- ½	4.9	17.6
1462½	1150	Schroders	1360	- 15	2.1	16.1
1172½	890	Schroders N/V	1160	- 2½	1.9	13.2
134	99½	Singer & Fredr	127½	- 1	1.4	9.4
729½	547	Standd Charter†	709	+ 13	2.1	13.8
1115	854	Union	1039½		3.6	11.1
3147½	2751½	Wells Fargo	3146½		2.0	
342½	264	Westpac	341½	- 3½	3.1	10.5
360	266	Wstmst	345		4.6	17.3

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

90	36	Abrdn Sts Hnr	78			5.9
848½	700	Bass	760½	- 5½	3.8	16.5
78	49	Bet Nor Inv Gb	59		3.6	18.0
265	161	Bortwood Bns	192½	- 9	3.8	16.3
127½	92	City Centre Rest	117½		1.7	24.0
631	550	Compass Gp	572	- 1	1.7	27.2
266	190	Eldridge P A ¢	241½	- 2	2.5	23.8
548½	413	Fuller Sm A	448½		2.6	15.3
636	546	Greenalls Grp	572½		3.2	15.5
693	567½	Greene King	657½	- 1½	3.2	16.3
2965	190	Grosvenor Inns	264		3.6	21.7
2958	324	Groupe Chez Gn	2958			
357	296	Hanby Hansn	297		4.3	11.1
3475	2837½	Hnk Jl	2962½		7.6	10.4
72	45	Inn Business†	66½	- ½	7.1	10.8
356	300	Mansfield	301½		2.4	14.7
242	173	Persimmon	208		5.7	22.0
675	535	Portfolio	611		2.5	18.2
154	118	Ply Nmda Treat†	146½		2.6	
74½	42	Paramount	64½	- ¼	4.4	10.0
175	123	Pubican Gp	172½		1.4	23.6
534½	217	Puzzle Propert	514½	+ 15	0.7	39.6
438	245	Ransdorn Inv	377½	- ½	1.7	40.5
163½	138½	Regent Inns†	163½	+ 10	2.8	
700	691	Scott & Bkne	6445½	+ 1½	3.7	20.4
266	188	Tom Cobbleigh	238		1.4	29.8
315	254½	Vaux Group	257	- 1	5.0	13.3
1157½	640	Wetherspoon (JD)	1157½	- 10	1.3	19.0
759	612	Whitbread	699½	+ ½	3.9	15.1
683	578	Wolverhmpton D	618½	- 1	3.2	14.0
407	297	Yates Bros	352	- 11½	1.3	25.8
668	425	Young 'A'	635		3.0	25.1

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

33	15	AAE Indc	21½			
202	135	Abbey	185		3.9	
295	217½	Allen	272½		3.1	18.4
178	87½	Amec	108	+ 1	3.8	20.8
370	117	Amey†	350		2.8	22.1
495	233	Andrews Sykes	455		7.4	9.8
245	152	Ashtead	244	+ 5½	1.6	26.7
38	25	Aroscate	35		3.4	
345	24	Bailey (Ben) Con	31		4.2	12.5
56	34	Barcom	52		1.7	
281	219	Barrat Devt†	261½	+ ½	3.9	
213	166	Beazer Homes†	197½	- ½	3.8	16.9
404	249	Bellway	331½		2.9	16.5
53	34½	Bellmarsh	51			
620	483	Berkeley Gp	603½		1.8	17.4
173	133	Bett Bros	163½		4.1	17.3
250	175	Boot (Henry)	238		4.1	9.9
152	91	Brandon Hire	117½		2.6	16.2
30	19	Brianne Gp	25		7.5	
54	31	Br Bldg & Eng	41			
138	104	Bryant	136	+ 2	4.6	23.3
188	88	CALA†	180½		4.2	15.0
11	8	Campbell & Arnot	10½			8.3
63½	37	Clarke T	63½		8.7	
103	39	Costain	53	- 1		
87	51	Countryside	72½	+ ½	4.8	
85	54½	Crest Nicholson	73		3.4	19.3
89	65½	Cussons	77½		6.3	12.6
220	118	Eve Group	168		0.8	
26	15	Galliford	20		6.4	
867½	733	Gleeson (M.J)	865		2.2	16.0
61	49½	Green (Ernest)	61½		3.1	
379	295	Hawtal & Biro	370		1.2	27.4
163	119	Hewden Stuart	143½	+ ½	2.2	18.8
102	76	Higgs & Hill	80		4.0	
72	56	Howard Mdgs	65	+ ½	5.4	17.0
109	22	Jarvis	103			47.4
188	126	Kellerl	182½		3.0	15.1
323	244½	Lang (J) †	322½		4.1	
117	97	Laing 6.4% Cv Prf	107½		7.4	
21	9½	Lovell (Tu)	11			
218	191	Maunders (J)	193½		3.7	
197	128	McAlpine (A)	150		3.8	
101	66	McCarthy & G	98		2.2	13.3
1930½	81	Morgan Sindall	179½	- 1	2.2	17.7
2021½	122	Morrison Cons	202½	+ 2½	2.6	15.4
96	68½	Mowlem (J) †	93		4.0	14.9
242	173	Persimmon†	208		5.7	22.0
115	65	Pochlec	113		2.5	18.2
145	97	Prowting	137½		3.7	27.0
20	12½	Raine Ind	15½			
152	113	Redland	136½		3.0	
66	45	Sacare Refrc	46		2.7	24.1
350	258	Sherrill Hdgsn	275½	+ 1	3.7	19.4
92	68	Shaw	72		7.3	9.6
378	343	Spandex	359		1.0	20.8
159	115½	Sy Homes	119½	- ½	7.7	
182	115	Taylor Woodrow†	157½	- ½	2.3	17.1
508	208	Tilbury (Hughst	497½		5.5	14.9
16½		Tilt Hy Group	14			
103	74	Wimpeart	77		6.6	
117½	65	Wimhomes	109½		5.1	68.5
53	36	Ward Hdgs	39½		3.2	10.5
294	178	Westbury	234	+ 2½	3.2	21.1
9½		Wiggins	8½	+ ¼		38.7
190	152½	Wilson (C)†	168½	- 2	3.4	23.1
473	354	Wilson Bowdn†	457½	+ 2½	2.6	21.5
160	125	Wimpey Gr	134		5.1	

BUILDING MATERIALS

15	5½	Abingtnpe #	8			
390½	284	BPB Ind	380	+ 1	3.2	18.8
124	97	Baggeridge Brk	114½		3.4	22.0
45	31	Bardon†	39½	- ½	7.4	14.6
66	45½	Blackburn	50½			
410	322	Blue Circle†	405	- 1½	3.9	29.3
97	77	Brandon PLC†	94½		6.4	15.7
138	108	Br Dredging†	122½		5.7	14.8
653	473	CRH	640½	- 6	1.6	17.2
32	12½	Caledonad Rbyt	30½		6.2	11.4
173	140	Calcrt	152½		9.0	
358½	195½	Caradon†	358½	+ 7	4.6	26.8
159	106	Caradon pl	128	+ ½	7.1	
56	19	Cheltnam Gs	40½		4.6	65.4
355	152	Crssly (JBJ)	252½		2.2	19.3
117½	70	Dyson A'	105½	- 5	5.3	8.3
238	200	Epwrt	206	+ 2½	5.4	15.4
183½	121½	Flare	143½	+ 1		15.9
95	81½	Gibbs & Dandy†	83		5.5	8.5
309	124	Graham Grp†	128		3.1	27.6
406	341½	Hanlaast Ld	346		3.2	15.0
327	253	Hepworth†	302½	+ 3	6.1	17.4
96	36	Henrietson	62½		3.2	13.0
356½	215	Heywd Wms	247½	+ 1	7.0	13.0
72	55½	Ibstock†	61½	+ 1½	4.1	13.6
500	335	Johnson	455		3.1	17.9
88	65	Lilleshall†	68½		8.9	10.9
155	111	Marley†	136	+ 1½	4.3	17.8
181	131½	Marshalls	138		4.1	16.3
471	349	Meyer Int	425		3.4	16.3
149	109½	Newman Tstnf	109½	- ½	7.9	19.5
106	81½	Norcros	83	+ ½		5.8
28	16	Phoenix Timber	21½		1.5	
203	175	Pilkington	188	+ ½	5.3	11.9
1745	1745	Polypipe	2089½	+ 1	1.8	17.9
1969½	926	Rmc Gp	1176	- 6½	2.7	18.5
476½	350	Redland	457		4.6	22.5
173	64½	Rocket	88		0.6	9.7
155	57½	Rutland	152½		7.2	15.3
150	94½	Rugby Group†	94½	- 2½	4.8	24.6
127	100½	Russell (A)	101½		9.3	18.9
265	196	Sec	255		3.1	14.2
4½	3	SWP	3½			
211½	156	Staple & Eshert	210		3.2	19.0
21½	16½	Spring Ram	17½			
230	175	Structrlse Hdgs†	209½		4.6	14.2
136	93	Tarmacr	96½	- ½	7.8	
147	97	Tarmac	100		6.0	10.9
485	326	Tarmac Preferst	451½		2.5	20.8
80	25½	Tudor	36	+ 2	3.8	14.0
511½	415	Wimpey	506	- 2½	2.5	17.5

CHEMICALS

207½	156	Allnaght & Wrt	200	- 4½	4.1	17.0
158	115	Allied Colloids	151	- 2½	2.4	36.4
210	150	Amcor Ind	150		4.8	10.6
108	66	Ambulcty Gp	89½		2.0	21.3
2696½	1443½	BASF DM	2390½	- 6½	2.8	
949	841	BOC	862	- 3½	4.5	18.0
330	258	BTP	327	- 4	4.3	
2462½	1716½	Bayer DM50	2412½	- 58	2.6	
112	78	Brnt Chems	105		2.9	31.0
2491	192	Br Vita†	247	- ½	4.0	26.6
366½	192	Canning (W)	266½		3.9	39.9
231	162½	Cty Technology	187½	- 2	4.0	
489½	401	Courtaulds	468	- 2	4.3	17.2
377	294	Cvtcrl	354	- ½	3.3	17.2
317½	230½	Dostos	305	+ 5	3.8	15.3
305½	246	Elis & Everard	305		3.8	15.5
94	61	Evno Colour	77		3.9	15.5
157	116	Gibbon	116½		3.3	
93	67	Hickson	74		2.5	
2381½	1750	Hoechst	2151½		2.5	
166	102	Holliday Chem	136½	- 3½	4.7	18.9
953	788	ICI	835½	+ 2½	4.6	30.2
388	188½	Incpen ¢	235	- ½	3.2	11.4
147	108½	Kalon	108½		4.0	
782	629	Laporte†	756½		7.1	12.2
135	196½	Manders †	99		2.4	12.0
100	76	Merrizcont	81		2.8	72.5
37	26	Metrotest	31		2.8	16.2
432	335	Pknstr	239		2.9	15.1
274	221	Scapa	268½	- ½	3.1	13.1
34	26	Sutcliffe Speak	31½		3.2	11.1
1189½	922½	Takeda Chem	1132½	- 3	0.7	16.8
1135	788	Wrssdrme Sl	860		3.6	16.9
296	225	Yorks Gp	276½	- 7	4.8	13.8
395	305	Yule Catlot†	382½	- 2	2.7	18.0

DISTRIBUTORS

121	85½	ABI Lets	93½		5.8	11.2
142	130½	Action Gp Spls	134½		6.9	6.4
365	355	Adam & Harvey	357½			
18	10½	Alexanders	11½	- 1	9.5	9.3
113	79	Applegrnd	81½	- 1	7.1	
6	3	Asc Br Eng	3½		4.3	16.6
620	505	BSG Group	600		4.3	13.8
38	21½	Bandr	23½		6.9	16.1
35	16	Bearing Power	32½		11	14.4
45	23	Bergrd A'	44½			

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

11	0½	Anglo Ind	0¾			
280	265	Amalgamtd	351		1.9	13.6
387	353	Assd Hdgs	375			20.6
1056	804	Bodcen Hld	806	- 31	7.9	13.7
340	229	BTR†	264	- 5½	4.1	17.8
596	419	BATY	430	+ 1	7.1	8.5
224	103	Berisford Intl	173½	- 1½	3.9	8.5
1344	1105	Bailey (J)	1233½	+ 2½	4.9	21.1
65	50	Burpley Hs	62½	- ½	8.1	
972	810	Charter†	855	+ 18½	4.1	12.2
1653	1295	Dominaro Gr	1429		2.3	14.3
234	226	Dpbrthe	227½		4.8	12.9
402	328	Electrocomponts	396½	+ 5½	2.1	35.4
314	172	Exmdia Invst	185½	- 1	3.3	17.9
1345	66	Exmdvlptr	121		3.9	19.6
105	75	Extrprcss Mtr	83½		7.0	10.5
575	2725	Expro Holdsnrt	2723½	- 5½	1.5	23.2
67	46	Fkn Indnsut	48½		8.3	7.4
338	248	Fenclos Grp†	314½		2.5	18.1
377½	167½	Gardner†	31		3.5	12.4
81	57½	Glendevon	71½	- 1½	1.8	21.1
92½	70½	Gowerspur	90		3.8	15.3
101	87	Handel	98	- 1	8.5	
292	216	Hanns (Philip)	254½		4.0	19.1
295½	200½	Headlam	279½	- ½	2.3	23.9
300	132	Holdcrc Tech	176½		4.2	16.6
201	153	IBA Ind	200½		1.6	18.2
316	231	Indscpnt	281½	+ 5½	3.6	24.1
78	33	Jacks (Mnlw)	62½		2.2	22.6
260	169	Kwik-Fit†	233½	+ ½	2.8	18.7
999	239	Lex Service	367	- ½	5.2	11.7
155	115	Lookers	117½		6.5	6.9
17	10½	Mdnd Grnt	11½		7.2	17.4
9½	6	Middlecrft G	6½	- ¼	7.5	9.9
47	31	Midcstes	43	- ½	0.7	
565	440	Norbsan	491	+ 2	1.9	14.1
349	280	Northcmbr	280	+ 5½	0.9	10.7
182	108	PCI (Dr)	125		7.7	11.7
341	272	Pentlnggmt	306		7.5	19.7
211	145	Perry Gp	181½	- 1	5.9	9.1
745	600	Pnsnwr Farnell	679½	+ 10	2.0	18.1
199	135	Quicks Group†	160	- ½	5.1	12.0
315	185	REA	234	+ ½	2.1	20.0
3	2	Reece	2¾			
54	25½	Renold	25½		7.4	8.8
4½	2	Revs Gp	3½			
56	46½	SCF Ind	48½	- ½	4.2	10.7
195	98	Saltire	74	- 4½	1.7	24.0
617½	295	Tarmi Products	488	- 3½	3.5	16.9
46	30	Tarmi Group†	45	- 1	3.9	15.4
1400	1150	UNILEC	2511½		2.1	29.1
3152½	2634½	Vsnty (Reg)	2971½		2.2	14.0
463	325	WF Ennrt	452		3.2	16.2
59	35½	Wilshaw	48½	+ 1½	2.5	20.8
143½	75½	Wrkrt	135		2.1	19.1
145½	104	Young (H)	145		3.4	13.4

ENGINEERING

353	277	AIM	322½		2.1	17.5
365½	69	APVP	77½	- ½	4.6	
457	357	ASW	55		9.1	
457	370	Alumasc†	370		2.7	15.2
175	101	Aves	119½		2.4	8.0
201	164½	Ash & Lacyt	167½		3.6	15.4
938	638	Assc Engrg	725		3.8	13.4
148	105½	Aurshire Metal	109½		5.7	8.4
355	284	BBAI	354½	+ 1	2.2	21.1
163	126½	BWI	139½		5.6	
145	50	Babcock	52	- 4½	5.8	
6	3	Bailey (CH)	8½			7.5
144	98	Baynes (Charles)	127	- 1	2.5	18.6
38	24	Beauford	33	- 2		8.9
388	328	Bemrose Group	49½			
203	134	Cestrian†	181½		4.4	
105	78	Bullam	84		4.8	
687½	403	Bodycote	687½		1.3	26.7
48	35½	Booth Inds	43½			
39½	17	Brdsmyth	39		4.1	11.2
84	58	Brokes	101½	- ½	5.5	
1129½	787	Br Aerospace†	1110½	- 5½	1.5	23.2
201	161	Br Steel	188½	+ ½	6.6	5.1
15½	11½	Brooke Tool	14½		2.6	10.3
38	26	Bryant	36½		3.9	11.6
398	341	BSG	396	- 1	3.9	18.0
137	113	Bssnbyr	126		6.5	22.5
142½	93½	Ind Control†	128½		3.5	
38½	35	Inselect	38		4.0	17.8
179	94	Cmbrdge Ind	147		6.4	9.6
57	34	LPA Ind	42		5.5	9.2
315	280	MTI Ind¢†	308		2.0	19.4
180	22½	Magnetic Power¢	26½	- 1		
258	245	Malvern-Se	255		2.5	17.9
72	29	Mannesmc	29	- ½	3.8	9.5
472	340	Mtlst	425			
87½	36	Nestronics	86½			
543	405	Oxford Inst	456		1.8	16.6
227	172	Pacer Mcro	214	- ½	1.4	
180	85	Pacer Technol†	85			
131	97	Pegl	108	- ½	4.6	15.6
2765½	1853½	Phillips Lmp nv	2116½		3.7	7.7
229	141	Pilsnwcrt	178½		3.7	10.0
191½	164	Pilsmton	171½			27.5
212½	148	Pressac	195½		2.3	20.4
49½	33	Prestwich	43½	- 1½		22.4
470	236½	Psvtn	382½	- 6½	0.6	33.0
348	272½	Racal Elect	278½	- ½	2.7	18.4
103	78	Radiocrc	101½		3.2	19.1
391	271	Rainford	325			20.1
560	380	Renishaw	493		2.2	
6	1½	Rodime	3½	- ½		
316	221½	Rostbrnt	228½	+ 6	3.4	11.7
427	317	Spirumcst	387½	- 4	3.5	15.0
92	62	Silvermines	83	- ½	1.8	18.8
43	29	Somdirect¢	32		3.6	
4033½	3003½	TDR	3621½	- 6½	0.6	32.1
34½	8	TDS Cmputs¢	26			
1147	1	Tarmac	1142½		3.5	12.9
172	92½	TLG	118		4.5	11.6
78	42½	Tadpole Tech	44			
134	61	Telemetrix	71	- 1	2.8	14.6
870	168	Telsonic	195			
245	153	Rempe Fibr†	170½		3.1	
36	20	Tool Systems	31½		4.8	19.7
380	276	Tunstall	312½		1.8	17.2
48	9½	Vantiy†	29½	+ 3	0.6	
273	199½	Vero†	207½		3.2	20.6
480	361	Vickers	465		3.4	14.5
36	17½	Wolfenbourne	21½			
172	108½	Wrexcour	108½	- ½	4.7	14.6

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

151	109	Advanti	139		7.6	27.5
1150	815	Aerflow Dowtn	955		4.4	5.8
101	57½	BSG	97½		4.2	15.1
353	273	Bedmon	275	- 3½	3.1	11.2
26	15	Bowmoor	16½		7.6	
307	175	BHF	265		1.9	
618	431	Finl Techt	614		1.7	20.4
1186	778	GKN†	1133½	+ 1	2.7	19.6
3800	2650	General Mtr†	2882½		3.1	
2000	197	Hemlys	580	- 1	2.7	15.1
17595½	12012½	Honda Motor	15399½	- 5½	0.3	
582	386	Lucas	470		3.3	14.1
475	425	Lucas	475		0.3	
2584½	172	LucasVarity	260	- ½		
1867½	1125	Mayflower†	1170	- 5½	1.5	23.2
1889½		Mtr Aerospace†	1889½	+ ½	6.6	5.1
1717½		Pilkington Gp	1717½	- 1½	4.8	16.8
155	117½	Rexnord Gp	2089½		3.1	11.6
1717½		Rolls-Royce	1717½		3.9	14.3
1717½		Rover Group	1717½		3.9	18.0
1717½		Smiths Ind	1717½		3.9	18.0
1717½		Tomkins	1717½		3.9	18.0
1717½		Turbo Systems	1717½		3.9	18.0
1717½		Vickers	1717½		3.9	18.0
1717½		Volvo	1717½		3.9	18.0
1717½		Westland	1717½		3.9	18.0
1717½		Wolseley	1717½		3.9	18.0

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

429	355	AB Food	414	- 2½	2.6	14.9
284	233	Acatos & Hsch	261		4.3	21.4
1197	1000	Allied Domq	1165	- 11½	11.9	9.8
325	265	Banks (S C)	290		4.7	10.2
343	313	Bibn (AG)	322½		4.5	10.2
37	27	Bonsons Crsp	32	- ½	5.8	
4097	346	Booker	405	+ 5	7.5	15.6
39	29	Bonhnook	34½		4.7	15.4
697	565	CPL Aromas	684	- 1	2.3	14.5
2887	1685	Cadbury-Schwrt	2687	- 2	4.7	21.1
92	65	Canadian Pacfc	80		7.5	11.7
348	258	Cnrs Milling	301½		3.7	10.8
112	68	Cavgrnn	90		8.6	
103	63	Centennial Fds	102½		4.1	
188	171	Cormack	197½	+ 3½	5.6	12.7
444	301½	Delgnty†	303	- ½	8.1	38.1
33	30½	Daniels Sf	31½			
272	215	Dwnrt	248½	- 1½	4.0	24.6
351	271	Eatng (James)	324½		3.8	14.7
254	185	Eassi	242½	+ ½	4.2	
20	16	Elckal	18½		4.2	12.2
364	278	Greencore	356	- 1	2.3	14.9
1129	917	Hcfwsnwd Fds	94	+ ½	8.9	13.6
197	163½	Hillsdown	182	- 2½	6.3	14.7
365	184	Pitcn	304		2.2	17.2
295	174	Pnce 'A' Vtg	294		2.5	
1733½	617	Rackitt Colmn	1724½	- 11	3.6	14.8
1717	1317	Rnkcrn	1717	- 1	3.6	14.8
348	247	Rnyal Dsnhsnt	278½		4.0	13.3
280	175	Silentnight	280	+ 5	3.7	16.3
26	16	Stoddard	21½		4.3	
386	252	Stewart	280	- ½	2.3	19.7
2341½	1561	Swizfoodwtch†

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2. **Eligible applicants:** Either (a) academics who have been regularly employed in the UK for at least seven years and who have spent at least three out of the past five years in the UK; or (b) academics of UK nationality. Candidates must be under 61 on 30 September 1998. There is no other age limit, but the Trustees have agreed to give some, although not exclusive, preference to well-established scholars.
3. **Eligible fields:** Any field in the humanities or social sciences.
4. **Support offered:** At the scheme's inception, a stipend of £41,000 (1995 figure) uprated in light of national agreements, for the academic year starting 1st October 1997 plus London allowance where appropriate. The employer's national insurance and superannuation contributions and some research expenses will also be covered.
5. **Closing date for applications:** 4.30p.m. on Friday 6 December 1996. Results by April 1997.
6. **Starting date:** As early as possible during the 1997-98 academic year.

Further particulars, including details of method of application and documentation required, may be obtained from the Trust by sending a self-addressed C5 envelope stamped for 60g to: The Leverhulme Trust, 15-19 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1NR. Requests must be received by 29 November 1996. These particulars cannot be faxed.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

VICE CHANCELLOR

THE UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD

The University invites applications for the post of Vice Chancellor which will become vacant on 1 October 1997 on the retirement of Professor T M Husband. The recent institutional merger has created an institution of over 18,000 students. There is the unique opportunity to consolidate and build on this to obtain maximum benefit from the distinctive portfolios and approaches of the constituents whilst retaining the shared commitment to partnership with industry, commerce and the public sector. The Vice Chancellor will have a challenging leadership role in further strengthening the University's research and teaching in the competitive environment of the millennium and in the rapidly changing financial context.

Further particulars are available from the Registrar, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT. Letters of enquiry or application should be addressed to Dr J Goldberg, Chairman of the Council, c/o the Registrar (marked 'Personal') and should arrive not later than 4 November 1996.

The University reserves the right to consider persons other than those who submit applications.

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POSTS

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS JOINT COUNCIL

ISJC

APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL SECRETARY

The Independent Schools Joint Council invites applications for the post of General Secretary which becomes vacant on 1st September 1997, following the retirement of Dr Arthur Hearnden OBE.

The Council is a federation of the eight main associations of independent schools. It represents their interests in discussions with Government Departments and other organisations and speaks on behalf of the independent sector as a whole. Its press and public relations arm is the Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS) with whose National Director the General Secretary works closely.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Independent Schools Joint Council, Grosvenor Gardens House, 35-37 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0BS.

The closing date for applications is 30 November 1996.

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Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary to the Foundation's Advisory Committee:

Professor M.E Mallett, Department of History, University of Warwick, COVENTRY, CV4 7AL

to whom eventual applications should be sent be 20th January 1997.

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JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

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The College proposes to elect a distinguished visitor to a Visiting Senior Research Fellowship during the academic year 1997-98. The Fellowship is intended for a scholar who normally works outside Oxford, who is already provided with financial support, and who wishes to pursue academic study and research as a member of an Oxford college. The College has a preference for applicants able to visit for the whole academic year but, in any event, no election will be made for less than one term. The Fellow will be a member of the Senior Common Room and will have dining and lunching rights. A small study room will be available free of charge; residential accommodation may be available on payment. The College has a preference, in 1997-98, for a scholar in the Arts or Social Sciences.

Applicants should write to the Principal's Secretary, Jesus College, Oxford, OX1 3DW, not later than Friday 8 November 1996, enclosing a curriculum vitae, a list of publications, a brief statement of the programme of work to be pursued, and the names of three referees (one of whom should, preferably, be from within Oxford University). It is the responsibility of applicants to ask their referees to send their references direct to the Principal's Secretary by the same date.

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FELLOWSHIPS

Clare Hall
Cambridge

Research Fellowships Arts and Social Sciences

The Governing Body of Clare Hall proposes to elect one stipendiary Research Fellow and two or more non-stipendiary Research Fellows in the Arts and Social Sciences for a period of three years starting mainly from October 1997. There are no restrictions on age, sex or previous standing, except that those who have previously held College Research Fellowships in Oxford or Cambridge are not eligible. The closing date for the receipt of applications and references is Monday 2 December 1996. Candidates are responsible for seeing that their curriculum vitae and references reach the College by this date.

Application forms to be obtained from: The Tutorial Secretary, Clare Hall, Cambridge CB3 9AL, UK.

Candidates will be asked on their applications to state whether, in the event of their not being elected to the stipendiary fellowship, they would be willing to accept a non-stipendiary fellowship; before elections to such a fellowship, candidates would need to demonstrate to the Committee that they will have financial support from other sources.

FELLOWSHIPS

JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

Junior Research Fellow in English

The College proposes to elect to a Junior Research Fellowship, tenable for three years from 1 October 1997. The post is open to men or women intending to pursue research in any field of English Language or Literature.

Further information may be obtained from the Principal's Secretary, Jesus College, Oxford OX1 3DW, who should receive applications by 15 November 1996. It is the responsibility of applicants to ask their referees (three are required) to send their references direct to the Principal's Secretary by the same date.

Junior Research Fellow in Physics

The College proposes to elect to a Junior Research Fellowship, tenable for three years from 1 October 1997. The post is open to men or women intending to pursue research in any field of Physics.

Further information may be obtained from the Principal's Secretary, Jesus College, Oxford OX1 3DW, who should receive applications by 15 November 1996. It is the responsibility of applicants to ask their referees (three are required) to send their references direct to the Principal's Secretary by the same date.

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EDUCATION

Teaching revolution sweeps Japanese schools

John O'Leary reports on a radical change in the education system that is seen as the key to renewed prosperity

Schools must get away from rote learning and concentrate on developing the whole child, allowing pupils to learn from experience wherever possible. At all levels, academic pressure should be lifted from children, and parents who doubt the wisdom of such changes must be coaxed out of their old-fashioned attitudes.

This is not a press release from the National Union of Teachers in the Sixties, but the gist of a recent circular from the Japanese education ministry. Just as British schools are being told to follow the example of their counterparts in Japan and other parts of the Pacific rim, Japan is moving in the opposite direction.

The Japanese have a million miles to go before they encounter the excesses of child-centred education and lose the qualities that have been the foundations of a successful nation. But the concepts are eerily familiar to those who marvel at the high standards and orderliness of their schools.

However, the Japanese see the liberalisation as essential and overdue. For different reasons, they are almost as dissatisfied with their educational system as many in the West are with their own. Politicians and educators blame the narrowly academic approach, buttressed by hours in crammers, for lack of creativity and damaging introversion.

Japan's self-confidence has been dented by recent economic problems, and education is seen as the key to renewed prosperity. Schools are being urged to turn out team players with a better understanding of the world, rather than examination machines.

Until now, each stage of education has been little more than a preparation for the next entrance examination. The ultimate aim is a place at a top-ranking university, which will be the passport to a rewarding career. Parents will make any financial sacrifice and their children will work hours unimaginable in the West.

Inevitably, such pressure affects the individual and society. Growing numbers of children (50,000 at the last count) are diagnosed as school-phobic and bullying has become a national obsession as a result of suicides among young victims. Last month, a 13-year-old boy left a note naming his tormentors, one of whose fathers committed suicide because of the shame.

> 'The changes will have an enormous cultural impact'

Schools are addressing the problem locally, but the Government sees a need for more radical measures. School phobics are no longer forced to return to the classroom, and the new approach is designed to ease the pressure on the rest.

The traditional six-day week has been reduced. Pupils have been given alternate Saturdays off and there is a proposal to abolish weekend classes entirely by the end of the century to promote family life and give the young a chance to socialise.

The worry is that parents will see it as an opportunity for more cramming. There are more than 2,000 Kumon schools, where children from the age of two upwards go twice a week for extra Japanese, mathematics, or English, in Tokyo alone. Thousands more go to conventional crammers to see them through high school or university entrance examinations.

Switching to a five-day week will mean reducing the amount pupils are expected to learn at a time when the style of teaching is also changing. Out goes what the Japanese describe as "memory education" and in comes "mental education", designed to improve analytical skills and powers of communication with more attention to the individual.

Minoru Tomita, the principal of Nishitoyama Elementary School, in Tokyo, acknowledges: "This is easier to say than to do because parents are still very eager for their children to advance to a good school and it is difficult to identify individual needs when there are up to 40 children in a class. More important still, it will be extremely difficult for the teachers, who have no experience of this type of education."

Traditional methods, involving considerable repetition, will still be used to ensure that the basics are firmly embedded, but this school wants its children, aged six to twelve, to learn as much as possible through experience. They will buy their own train tickets, for example, or see how the postal system works.

Like all Japanese children in primary schools, they have some practical lessons. Lunch is served by the pupils, who also clean their classroom and other school areas at the end of the day.

At Japan's largest school, the 3,000-pupil Inagakuen Comprehensive Upper Secondary School, an hour's drive north of Tokyo, experiments in education are being taken further with the introduction of subjects such as gardening and car maintenance.

Inagakuen is heavily oversubscribed, and some pupils travel two hours to school. But the school is playing its part in the move away from the reliance on entrance examinations by taking personal qualities into account.

The school still demonstrates the need for modernisation in some areas. There is little use of computers, for example, and few pupils have ever heard of the Internet.

Professor Hidenori Fujita, a critic of the education system from Tokyo University, sees little sign of a change of heart among ambitious parents.

"The changes are likely to have an enormous cultural impact," he says. "At the moment schools are expected to take responsibility for every aspect of a child's life, and it has become impossible for them to fulfil the role adequately. More emphasis will fall on the home and the local community, and no one is sure how they will cope."



Two Japanese girls learn the alphabet at school, where teachers are urged to change their approach

Enter, stage left: tours and quizzes to lure the children

Dalya Alberge reports on how theatres are enticing the audiences of tomorrow

Commercial theatre owners are recognising that dramatic action needs to be taken to entice young people away from their televisions and back into the theatre.

Stoll Moss, which owns 30 per cent of the seats in London's West End, is following the lead of the subsidised sector in devising an education programme with outreach sessions in schools, workshops and information packs linked to the national curriculum.

Susanne Gilmartin, of Stoll Moss, points out that the average theatre-goer is 50-plus, and that dwindling numbers of the younger generation are excited by live performance. "At this rate, we will soon have empty buildings that will have to be filled with bingo," she says.

Theatres must actively compete with the video and satellite offerings of plays and concerts brought straight into the home. "The magic of the live performance is moving further and further away," says Ms Gilmartin. "These are our audiences of tomorrow. Let's do something about it."

Last year, 11 million West End tickets out of a possible total of 16 million were sold. Stoll Moss, which owns ten buildings, including the Theatre Royal Drury Lane (where *Miss Saigon* is playing) and the Queen's Theatre (where *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* with Gene Wilder has just opened), sold 3.5 million of those tickets.

Now the company is to appoint an education manager. Ms Gilmartin said: "Halfway through a production, their attention drops and that's when scuffles can break out in the back rows. The average 12-year-old is not used to being so quiet. We will provide more support to a group when they arrive, looking for certain things to keep their attention."

Plans include behind-the-scenes tours, workshops with the designer and producer, and lesson plans to help the teachers. "observation sheets" and quizzes with prizes to get the children to observe details.

Stoll Moss itself has been observing the education programmes run by Sir Cameron Mackintosh for *Cats* and the Really Useful Group for *Starlight Express*. David Grindrod, the production co-ordinator who oversees the education programme with the Really Useful Group, says their programme involving 500 children a week makes a dramatic difference. They attend an hour's session in the morning before the matinée: production staff take them behind the scenes to observe how the lighting, sound and set work. An actor discusses the role and how they got through the audition. Mr Grindrod says: "These are the audiences for the future. If you think of theatre as elitist, you won't get the kids in there. We show them it's fun."

Susan Whiddington of the Society of London Theatre (Solt) applauds Stoll Moss's scheme. "I hope other commercial theatres do the same. As there are all kinds of leisure activities for young people, theatres need to reach out to compete effectively."



Feline appeal: two of the cast of *Cats*

However, Sarah Argent, the director of the Association of Professional Theatre for Children and Young People, is worried that these programmes will take the place of the Theatre in Education (Tie) schemes that have been bruised badly by local authority cutbacks. "This should not be a replacement," she emphasises.

The Arts Council has just conducted the first national audit of education programmes, contacting every arts group funded by either the Arts Council or regional arts boards. It found that 78 per cent feature education among their activities. "That's a huge number", says Jillian Barker, its education and training officer. "Just 15 years ago, you would hardly have found any. Arts organisations, in an attempt to be more accessible, have realised that they need actively to develop links with the community in which they are based."

Action plan for teenagers with a zero future

Iola Smith on a disturbing inquiry into a county's angry youth

Status Zero teenagers have nothing. No qualifications, no job prospects, no training. Now a Training and Enterprise Council says it is determined to find ways of bringing them back from crime or the black economy.

Mid Glamorgan TEC concludes in a report published this week that a national strategy involving schools, TECs and employers is needed if disaffected 16 and 17-year-olds are to be prepared for the world of work.

More than 2,500 teenagers, or 20 per cent of the area's 16 and 17-year-olds, are classified as being Status Zero. "It is a nationwide problem that needs to be tackled on a national scale," says Paul Trotman, of the council. The council is now developing an action plan.

"The work must begin in schools, preferably in the primary sector," he says. "By the first years of secondary education these youngsters tend to switch off and truant.

"To try to keep them in school, the TEC recommends convincing youngsters and their parents of the value of education."

Some of the children interviewed for the report say part of their problems began at school. "I was ignored and labelled one of the thick ones," Tony says. "They shouldn't label the kids as failures because then that's the way they'll turn out."

The TEC is convinced that such youngsters need an alternative to the national curriculum and recommends moving them from school and giving them work experience.

Providing qualifications is another priority. In 1995, only 4.7 per cent of the area's schools had more than half their 16-year-old pupils achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A to C.

Many of the youngsters have developed alternative, often deviant lifestyles. They say drugs and crime pay better than youth training, which they describe as "slave labour".

All the youngsters questioned said they wanted work. To deliver it, the TEC is considering subsidising employers who would take on youngsters. Funding for such subsidies is essential, and Mr Trotman is seeking support from the Welsh Office and the European Union.

The TEC believes this money would be offset by a reduction in crime. The report concludes: "The cost of nationwide juvenile crime could be diverted into improved training allowances, job creation measures and provision of social projects. One youth crime costs £2,400, of which £1,300 is a cost to the public purse."

Forget the sentimental image, only the very best can take the strain of becoming an animal doctor, says **Jennai Cox**

Making the grade as a vet

Becoming a vet means completing one of the most challenging degrees in the country. Competition is fierce and only the brightest and most committed stand a chance of securing one of the 400 places available nationally. Then they face five years of constant physical and mental effort.

The final year is spent revising by night and treating animals by day and course leaders admit it is designed to be as stressful as possible.

"We're the last hurdle they jump before they are let loose on the public," says Dr Kieran O'Brien, head of the large animal practice on Bristol University's course. "No one should expect it to be easy."

A new six-part BBC1 series, *Vets' School*, follows the final year of training for seven would-be animal doctors and shows their vocation is clearly not the endless round of amusing encounters portrayed by James Herriot.

As well as a minimum of two As and a B at A level, applicants must prove their interest in caring for animals, plus stamina and motivation. Tutors say students are better qualified and more intelligent every year and have a tremendous capacity for hard work.

Determination and self-discipline kept Trude Mostue, a Norwegian former milkmaid, going after she failed the first year. She is one of seven students featured in the series.

"It takes over your whole life and there is so much to learn," she says. "You really need to make sure you understand what the job involves before you start." Ten per cent of students drop out in the first two years.

Until the end of their third year, students are taught theory — anatomy, biochemistry and animal husbandry. It is not until the last year that they get their hands on live animals.

"Clerking", placements in veterinary surgeries where students are required to treat animals, is regarded as the most demanding part of the degree, and brings out any weaknesses. The growing emphasis on practical work is recognition that those good at examinations do not always make good vets.

During holidays and while revising for finals, students work in different practices and deal with anything from calving cows to anorexic cockatoos and iguanas with worms. A qualified vet makes notes on the students' knowledge and manual dexterity with animals, but also on their ability with people.



Student Trude Mostue with a "patient" on *Vets' School*

"A good vet is someone who can put owners at ease," says Dr Frank Taylor, senior lecturer in equine medicine at Bristol. "You could be very gifted technically, but without being able to communicate you won't be any good as a vet."

Of equal importance is a business sense — for example, understanding the financial problems of a pensioner with a sick budgie or a large farming enterprise with a fertility problem.

A common complaint from students is lack of business training. Another is the short time spent on exotic animals. "We concentrate on cattle, horses, cats and dogs, because those are the animals we'll mainly be dealing with," says Mike Sandiford, another student. He has accepted a job in Botswana at a hospital for injured wild animals and is encouraged that the study of exotics, increasingly kept as pets, is being extended.

Growing pet ownership is leading to a severe shortage of vets and as a result graduates can secure good employment packages. But with debts, long hours and the need to make life-and-death decisions straight after qualifying, they are subject to great strain.

Suicide rates are 2½ times the national average and four years ago the British Veterinary Association set up a helpline because of the number of young vets leaving the profession. Plans are also under way to research the extent of the problem.

Those considering a veterinary career need to be aware of the demands and 100 per cent sure of their motivation. Jon Coupe, a student in the series, says he lost 70 per cent of his compassion for animals doing the course, but another Stephen Leonard, says: "It's very hard work, there is no social life, but the work is tremendously rewarding. After finishing my first day I was over the moon. I loved every minute."

● *Vets' School starts on Monday, BBC1, 8.30pm.*

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Court's power to hear foreign pill dispute

Beecham Group plc and Another v Norton Healthcare Ltd and Others

Before Mr Justice Jacob

[Judgment October 1

When a plaintiff commenced a patent action and later discovered that a foreign defendant was using confidential information stolen from the plaintiff to manufacture medicinal products and was using an English defendant as a United Kingdom importer to get the tainted product on to the UK market, the court was entitled to use its powers under Order 20, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court to grant the plaintiff leave to amend the writ in the patent action to include new causes of action based on breach of confidence.

In such a case the English court would not decline jurisdiction to hear the claim even though the product which was the subject matter of the action was being manufactured abroad.

Mr Justice Jacob so held in the Patent Court of the Chancery Division when granting leave to the plaintiffs, Beecham Group plc and Smith Kline Beecham plc, for leave to re-amend their writ and statement of claim against the defendants, Norton Healthcare Ltd, H. N. Norton & Co Ltd and LEC Pharmaceutical and Chemical Co DD ("Lek").

Mr David Kitchin, QC, Mr Adrian Briggs, Mr Justin Turner and Mr Nicholas Shea for the plaintiffs: Mr Simon Thorley, QC and Mr Henry Whittle for the first and second defendants: Mr Charles Sparrow, QC, for the third defendant.

MR JUSTICE JACOB said that the first two defendants, Norton, were associated English companies who intended to import from the third defendant, Lek, a Slovenian company, a medicinal tablet called "co-amoxiclav" which Lek manufactured.

The tablets contained a mixture of potassium clavulanate and amoxycillin trihydrate. In combination the two substances were a powerful antibiotic.

Beecham sold co-amoxiclav under the trade name Augmentin which had large sales. Although the basic patents on clavulanic acid and amoxycillin and their salts had expired Beecham had several later patents particularly covering various aspects of the manufacture of clavulanic acid.

In February 1996 Beecham commenced quia timet proceedings against Norton for infringement of two of those patents, claiming that the potassium clavulanate in the co-amoxiclav would be "obtained directly by means of carrying out" the processes of the two patents, contrary to section 60(1)(c) of the Patents Act 1977. An interlocutory injunction was granted.

In April a live issue was the nature of the organism used by Lek. With the cooperation of Lek, who were under no obligation to do so, a consent order was made for an independent expert appointed by Beecham to have access to Lek's fermentation facilities to take samples and to identify by analysis the micro-organism present.

However discovery did not go smoothly and in May, Beecham was granted leave to amend the writ and statement of claim so as to join Lek as defendant to the action with leave to serve out of the jurisdiction. Lek accepted service.

In mid-June Beecham's independent expert reached a startling preliminary conclusion. The experiment suggested that Lek had Beecham's production strain, known as SC7, or a derivative of it.

No one had looked for that result. It was reached by accident. The implications were enormous. If right, then Lek's contentions were clearly false and they had come by a strain stolen from Beecham.

Beecham now applied to re-amend its statement of claim to add new causes of action based on alleged breach of confidence and wrongful interference with property and a claim to what was in effect stolen property.

Lek's submissions were based substantially as an application under Order 12, rule 8 of the Rules of the Supreme Court to set aside the leave to serve out of the jurisdiction granted in May.

His Lordship said that there was a substantial difficulty in Lek's way, namely that it had accepted service and submitted to the jurisdiction. It did so in relation only to the patent claim but it did so none the less.

It was submitted that acceptance of service was obtained on a misrepresentation and that Lek was entitled to rescind that acceptance.

Where there was a positive misrepresentation which induced acceptance of service the court might be able to do something although there was no rule dealing with the situation.

Even if there was such jurisdiction, his Lordship was not convinced that mere non-disclosure would amount to a sufficient basis for dealing with the problem once service had been accepted.

Accordingly Lek's application as made was formally misconceived. Further it failed on the facts. There was no material non-disclosure or misstatement.

The governing power of the court to allow the plaintiff to amend his writ was contained in Order 20, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Although Lek voluntarily submitted to the jurisdiction in order to save costs and time, it should be treated as a party which only came into the proceedings by virtue of service out of the jurisdiction.

To treat it as if it was a party within the jurisdiction would be to unfairly penalise it for its cooperation.

The question was: how should the court's discretion be exercised when the plaintiff sought to add an additional cause of action against a foreign party brought into the proceedings by virtue of service out of the jurisdiction?

Without citation of authority his Lordship thought the position was very clear. A cause of action could only be added if it was such that the court would independently of the original claim grant leave out of the jurisdiction.

For then if the amendment were refused, the plaintiff would none the less be able to get leave under Order 11 of the Rules of the Supreme Court to serve proceedings for that cause of action. So there was no point in refusing the amendment and every reason for allowing it.

That view was supported by *Holland v Leslie* ([1984] 2 QB 346) and *Beck v Value* ([1975] 1 WLR 6).

The next question of principle concerned the Norton companies. Beecham's cause of action in breach of confidence against them did not rely on Norton using SC7.

What was said was that Norton now knew that the co-amoxiclav it intended to import would be made using Beecham's SC7 in effect stolen from it and that accordingly it would be unconscionable for Norton to proceed with its plans, either by importing or even by ordering production for import.

That such a cause of action was arguable was demonstrated by the analogous case of *Union Carbide v Naturin* ([1987] FSR 538). Beecham's case was stronger than Union Carbide's because here the information was stolen from this country whereas in *Union Carbide* it was stolen abroad, and because Norton had a much deeper involvement with its supplier than was the case of the importer in *Union Carbide*.

His Lordship said there was a lot to be said for the suggested cause of action. It squared with what an equitable conscience required. Although it might require an investigation into what process was carried out abroad, that was not something the law was afraid of contemplating.

Parliament in section 60(1)(c) of the 1977 Act contemplated just such an investigation in the case of products made abroad by a process patented here.

Beecham had an existing cause of action for patent infringement. It was adding to it by the amendment and there was no reason why the court's power under Order 20, rule 5 did not extend to adding a fresh cause of action to a writ which was not incurably bad in itself.

Lek said that the real substance of the matter was whether in Slovenia. Lek was committing a wrong and therefore that was the place where the trial should be.

His Lordship did not agree so far as the claim for breach of confidence was concerned.

There was a claim of real substance against Norton which was in respect of acts to be done here. Lek was a proper and necessary party to that action.

If there were an alleged wrongdoer here, doing wrong by our law, he could be sued and if a foreigner had to be brought in to do justice then that was what would generally happen.

There were several reasons which militated strongly in favour of the United Kingdom being a forum conveniens for the trial of the breach of confidence action against Lek. So leave to serve out of the jurisdiction would be given if an application under Order 11 were made now.

The motion to remove Lek from the proceedings failed and the application for amendment against all the defendants succeeded.

Solicitors: Simmons & Simmons; Roiter Zucker; Alsop Wilkinson.

Dominant purpose of order improper

Cobra Golf Inc and Another v Rata and Others

Before Mr Justice Rimer

[Judgment September 18]

Where the dominant purpose of seeking an *Anton Piller* order to search for and seize documents was to use its fruits in committal proceedings, the order was liable to be set aside. Defendants were entitled to the privilege against self-incrimination for civil contempt save in cases involving intellectual property or passing off.

Mr Justice Rimer so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division dismissing (i) a motion by Cobra Golf Inc and Anthony Rata, Simon Paul Rata and Raymond John Rata and (ii) a motion by the Ratas against Cobra.

Mr Adrian Speck for Cobra: Mr Thomas Lowe for the Ratas.

MR JUSTICE RIMER said that Cobra were golf club manufacturers and suppliers and the registered proprietors of trade marks consisting of the words "Cobra" and "King Cobra" and a distinctive snake logo which were used on their range of golf clubs and accessories.

The Ratas carried on a substantial business importing, supplying and selling golf clubs and accessories and the component parts which made up golf clubs. They ran a string of about 20 retail outlets selling golf equipment.

On October 4, 1995 Cobra started an action against the Ratas in respect of "King Snake" clubs sold by them based on alleged infringement of their trade marks and passing off and seeking injunctions, delivery up of infringing articles and orders for disclosure of the Ratas' suppliers and customers and damages or an account of profits.

That action was settled by the Ratas giving undertakings to desist from any future infringements and to make affidavits giving the disclosure of the information sought and making an agreed payment of £4,000 in respect of damages and costs.

The order of the court, made on December 1, 1995, stayed all further proceedings in the action and was served on the Ratas indorsed with a penal notice.

Evidence subsequently emerged which suggested to Cobra that the Ratas had not adhered to the terms of the undertakings about future infringements nor been honest in their disclosures about their customers and suppliers.

Cobra therefore commenced a new action in respect of infringements commited since December 1 and sought an *Anton Piller* order seeking the same disclosures and delivery up as previously.

The dominant purpose of Cobra in seeking an *Anton Piller* order was to obtain evidence which would support their claim that the Ratas had been in contempt of court when purportedly complying with their earlier undertakings.

The *Anton Piller* order granted by Mr Justice Lindsay on April 19, 1996 contained the usual undertaking by Cobra "not without the leave of the court, to use any information or documents obtained as a result of carrying out this order except for the purposes of these proceedings". Cobra now sought that leave.

The points raised included:

1 Whether an *Anton Piller* order should be granted when its purpose and effect would or might be to require the defendant to incriminate himself.

2 Whether there was a privilege against self-incrimination for civil contempt.

3 If there was, whether and to what extent it was removed by section 72 of the Supreme Court Act 1972.

4 Whether in the light of the relevant principles and circumstances, the *Anton Piller* order should be set aside.

1 His Lordship examined *Rank Film Distributors Ltd v Video Information Centre* ([1982] AC 380), *Tate Access Floors Inc v Boswell* ([1991] Ch 512) and *IBM United Kingdom Ltd v Prime Data International Ltd* ([1994] 1 WLR 719) and concluded that an order including provisions likely to require the defendant to incriminate himself was liable to be set aside.

2 His Lordship analysed numerous authorities and concluded that the Ratas were in principle, but subject to section 72 of the Supreme Court Act 1981, entitled to a privilege against self-incrimination for civil contempt in respect of their alleged breaches of their undertakings of December 1.

3 Section 72 withdrew the privilege against self-incrimination in proceedings for infringement of rights pertaining to any intellectual property or for passing off.

His Lordship considered *Crest Homes plc v Marks* ([1987] AC 829) and many other authorities and concluded that although, but for section 72, the Ratas would have been entitled to a privilege against self-incrimination for any contempt committed by them in breaching their undertakings, the effect of section 72 was that their right to assert that privilege had been removed.

4 His Lordship reviewed the position and considered that, subject to one matter, all the indications were to the effect that he should exercise his discretion against setting aside the order.

The one matter was that there was really no dispute that Cobra's dominant intention in seeking the *Anton Piller* order in the first action was to use its fruits in contempt proceedings in that action; and when they instead elected to start the second action and to apply in that one for their order, it was plain that their intention to use its fruits in committal proceedings in the first action did not evaporate, although they recognised that they would first have to obtain leave.

If that consideration was linked to the fact that the bulk of the relief claimed in the second action was relief which Cobra did not need, since they had already obtained it in the first one, it was not difficult to arrive near the edge of a conclusion that, looking at the operation as a matter of substance, their *Anton Piller* relief was sought not in aid of the prosecution of the second action but in the hope that it would enable them to commit the Ratas to prison for their contempt in the first action.

If that analysis were right, it might be said to justify the conclusion that the order was largely being sought for a purpose collateral to that of the second action so that it should not have been granted at all.

His Lordship, however, decided that such a conclusion would not be justified. He reviewed the countervailing considerations and held that there was no justification for setting aside the *Anton Piller* order made by Mr Justice Lindsay on April 19 and dismissed the Ratas' motion.

His Lordship then considered Cobra's motion for leave to use the disclosed material in the second action in contempt proceedings in the first action and in that context examined *Crest Homes* again.

The determinative factor in the upholding of leave in *Crest Homes* was that the existence of the two separate actions was explicable by reference to matters of the merest technicality so that both actions could fairly be regarded as in substance one set of proceedings.

Once they were so regarded there was a sound reason for exercising the discretion to modify the undertaking, and no sound basis for a suggestion that to do so would occasion an injustice to the defendants.

In that respect, however, the present case was materially distinguishable from *Crest Homes*. There was nothing adventitious about the fact that Cobra had started two actions against the Ratas, and the starting of the second action was not because of any sort of technicality.

The case was one in which Cobra sued the first action to a final consent order and then sought an *Anton Piller* order in it with the dominant intention of using its fruits in committal proceedings against the Ratas. They were refused that order and did not appeal the refusal.

They instead started the second action, relying on infringements allegedly committed subsequent to the order in the first action, and they obtained an *Anton Piller* order in it.

Like all *Anton Piller* orders, it was an exceptional one, granted by the court at the limit of its jurisdiction, and it was sought and granted in aid of the purposes of the second action and, in particular, so as to enable Cobra to recover and preserve evidence for the purposes of their just and proper prosecution.

It was not sought or granted to enable Cobra to use that evidence in committal proceedings in the first action, although it was always open to Cobra to apply for leave to do so, and Mr Justice Lindsay was aware when he granted the order that they might so apply.

Further, there was no question of the two actions being in substance one set of proceedings. They were not. The first action had been sued to judgment. The second action was still pending. It would not at that stage be appropriate to make any order consolidating them.

In summary, his Lordship did not accept that there was any sufficient reason for giving Cobra the leave they sought. He dismissed their motion.

Solicitors: Eversheds: D. J. Freeman.

Promotion of commerce not charitable for tax

Inland Revenue Commissioners v Oldham Training and Enterprise Council

Before Mr Justice Lightman

[Judgment September 12]

Neither the provision of benefits to, nor the promotion of the interests of individuals engaged in trade, commerce or enterprise, were, per se, charitable objects.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in the Chancery Division, in allowing an appeal by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue against a decision of Special Commissioners dated August 24, 1995, who had held that Oldham Training and Enterprise Council was established for charitable purposes only, within the meaning of section 506(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and accordingly was exempt from corporation tax on its income by virtue of sections 505 and 9(4) of the 1988 Act.

Mr Michael Furness for the commissioners: Mr Timothy Lloyd, QC, for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that this was in effect a test case for some 80 other training and enterprise councils with identical objects clauses. Charitable status carried with it restrictions on permitted application of funds and activities, as well as tax and rating advantages.

In the light of advice received after its subsequent merger with the business and assets of Oldham Chamber of Commerce and Industry, together with changes of its objects clause and name, Oldham TEC had concluded that the adverse effect of charitable status on its permitted activities was such that it was not in its interests to oppose the appeal.

TECs derived from a White Paper of December 1988 entitled *Employment in the 1990s* some of the proposals in which were enacted in the Employment Act 1990.

Oldham TEC was incorporated in May 1989 as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

Its activities fell under three headings: (i) enterprise services, including information and advice; diagnostic services and business skills training; (ii) business start-up services, including a free enterprise training programme for anyone thinking of setting up a new business and, subject to conditions, cash payments up to £2,800 for any individual, in lieu of any unemployment or social security benefits; and (iii) training, both of the young and re-training the unemployed.

Those services were generally provided by private sector firms, universities and colleges, the cost, if any, being shared between the recipient business and Oldham TEC, which started operations in August 1989. The Revenue had raised on it assessments to corporation tax for periods between then and April 1992.

Prior to its amendment in March 1990, the material main object of Oldham TEC's memorandum of association read: "to promote industry commerce and enterprise of all forms for the benefit of the public in and around Oldham" and the material subsidiary object "to develop, secure and provide training and other support services and advice to and for new and small local businesses".

The litmus test for charitable status was whether that main object, read in the light of that subsidiary object, admitted the application of its funds and resources for purposes which were not charitable. His Lordship considered the amended memorandum, which essentially raised the same issue, and referred to seven leading authorities, ending with *Incorporated Council of Law Reporting for England and Wales v Attorney-General* ([1972] Ch 73), and concluded that those objects, on any fair reading, must extend to enabling Oldham TEC to promote the interests of individuals engaged in trade, commerce or enterprise and provide benefits and services to them, regardless of motive or the likely beneficial consequences for employment.

Mr Lloyd had sought to invoke the principle that where there was an ambiguity, a benign construction should be adopted in favour of a charity.

But that principle only applied where a provision or gift would be held void if not charitable; further, His Lordship could detect no ambiguity in either object clause.

It followed that the appellant was not established "for charitable purposes only" within the meaning of section 506(1) of the Act.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue: Wrigley Claydon, Oldham.

Complaint admissible only after broadcast

Regina v Broadcasting Complaints Commission, Ex parte Barclay and Another

Before Mr Justice Sedley

[Judgment October 4]

The Broadcasting Complaints Commission could consider complaints against an alleged infringement of privacy only when the programme in question had been broadcast.

Mr Justice Sedley so held in the Queen's Bench Division in refusing the application of David Barclay and Frederick Barclay for judicial review, by way of a declaration, of the decision of the BCC of November 13, 1995 that it had no jurisdiction under section 143(1)(b) of the Broadcasting Act 1990 to entertain complaints of unwarranted infringement of privacy before a programme had been broadcast.

Section 143 of the 1990 Act provides: "(1) Subject to the provisions of this part, the function of the BCC shall be to consider and adjudicate upon complaints of (a) unjust or unfair treatment in programmes to which this part applies, or (b) unwarranted infringement of privacy in, or in connection with the obtaining of material included in, such programmes.

"(2) This part applies to (a) any television or sound programme broadcast by the BBC..."

Mr Geoffrey Robertson, QC and Mr Peter Duffy for the applicants: Mr Mark Shaw for the BCC: Mr Robert Englehart, QC, for the British Broadcasting Corporation.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY said that the law of England and Wales at present placed no general constraints upon invasions of privacy as such.

Section 143 of the 1990 Act unambiguously limited the power of the BCC to adjudicate upon complaints of infringement of privacy against the BBC arising out of programmes which had been broadcast.

If unwarranted infringement of privacy had been committed by the BBC otherwise than in connection with the obtaining of material included in a broadcast programme, whether because the nexus was insufficient or because no programme had been broadcast, the BCC was without adjudicative power.

The application failed.

Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant: Gregory Rowcliffe & Milners: Mr Gareth Roscoe, Hammersmith.

Correction

In *ICS v West Bromwich BS* and associated cases (*The Times* October 10) counsel for Hopkin & Sons, representative of some of the defendant solicitors, were Mr Justin Fenwick, QC, Mr Andrew Sutcliffe and Mr Mark Cannon, instructed by Reynolds Porter Chamberlain. Additionally, Mr Justin Fenwick, QC and Mr Mark Cawson, instructed by Weightmans, Liverpool, appeared for other defendant solicitors.

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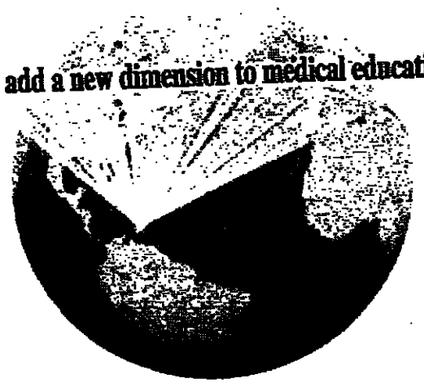
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LEGAL NOTICES

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THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Companies will be held at Pannell House, Park Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4HN on 16 October 1996 at 10.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at the registered office - New Garden House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JA, not later than 12 noon on 17 October 1996.
For the purposes of voting, a secured creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge at New Garden House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JA, before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.
Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Companies' creditors may be inspected free of charge, at New Garden House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JA, between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
By Order of the Board
D Brooks
Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
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Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

No. 002848 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER of
AAF INDUSTRIES PLC
-and-
IN THE MATTER of
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 2nd day of October 1996 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company from £18,218,052 to £4,880,944 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 7th day of October 1996.
Dated the 8th day of October 1996
THEODORE GODDARD
150 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4EJ
Tel: 0171 606 8855
Solicitors for the above-named Company
Ref: SYL/8321.62

The Insolvency Act 1986
PERSONAL SECURITY SERVICES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 25th October 1996 at The Old Bakery, Lower Gower Road, Royston, Herts, SG8 5EA at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 4th day of October 1996
By Order of the Board
C WARD, Director

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT OF CAPITAL
REPCO INTERNATIONAL FUTURES (GUERNSEY) LIMITED
NO 1575187
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 175 of the Companies Act 1985 that.
1 The above named company ("the company") has approved payment out of capital for the purpose of redeeming its own shares by purchase.
2 The amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £16,282,958.
3 The date of the passing of the resolution for the payment of capital is 7 October 1996.
4 A Statutory Declaration and Auditor's Report required by Section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the company's registered office which is Europa House, New Smithfield, London EC1 9AA; and
5 Any creditor of the company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the resolution for payment out of capital, apply to the Court under Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for any order prohibiting the payment.
Dated - 7 October 1996
C. SAYER - DIRECTOR

In the Matter of Sypro Europe Limited -in Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation
In accordance with Rule 4.106 Insolvency Rules 1986, I, Ian Frances of Ian Frances Associates, Condait House, 24 Condait Place, London W2 1EP, give notice that on 4th October 1996 I was appointed Liquidator of Sypro Europe Limited by resolutions of members and creditors. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Ian Frances at Condait House, 24 Condait Place, London W2 1EP.
Dated: 7 October 1996
Ian Frances
Liquidator

NOTICE OF INTENDED DIVIDEND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AND
IN THE MATTER OF ROAM DESIGNS LIMITED (FORMERLY INTERCRAFT DESIGNS LIMITED)
Notice is hereby given that it is my intention to declare a third and final dividend to unsecured non preferential creditors of the above named company. Creditors who have not yet done so are required, on or before 1 November 1996 to send their proofs of debt to the undersigned ROGER POWDRILL of Deloitte & Touche, Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London EC4A 3TR, the Joint Liquidator of the company and, if so requested to provide such further details or produce such documentary or other evidence as may appear to the Joint Liquidator to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved his debt by the date specified will be excluded from the dividend. The dividend will be declared within four months from 1 November 1996.
R A Powdrill
Joint Liquidator
Date: 3 October 1996

The Insolvency Act 1986
SOMMOR LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 14th November 1996 at The Old Bakery, Lower Gower Road, Royston, Herts, SG8 5EA at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 1st day of October 1996 By Order of the Board A. FLUKER, Director

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
STEGHILL FIXINGS LIMITED
IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of Creditors of the above company will be held at Tenlegeron House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD on Friday, 25 October 1996 at 10.00a.m.
In order to be able to vote, details of your claim must be lodged at Tenlegeron House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD no later than 12.00 noon on Thursday, 24 October 1996. In addition, a form of proxy must also be lodged prior to the meeting.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Creditors whose claims are partially secured should deduct the value of their security from their total claim and they will only be allowed to vote for the unsecured portion of their claim. Creditors should also note that the Joint Administrative Receivers can call for any document or other evidence to be produced to substantiate their claim.
DATED this 7th day of October 1996
M W YOUNG AND N J HAMILTON-SMITH
JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

In the Matter of Majordata Limited - In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation
In accordance with Rule 4.106, Insolvency Rules 1986, I, Ian Frances of Ian Frances Associates, Condait House, 24 Condait Place, London W2 1EP, give notice that on 3 October 1996 I was appointed Liquidator of Majordata Limited by resolutions of members and creditors. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Ian Frances at Condait House, 24 Condait Place, London W2 1EP.
Dated: 3 October 1996
Liquidator



■ THEATRE

Marlene, a new staged biography of Dietrich, is saved by one star turn



■ CHOICE 1

Jason Donovan turns his talent to thrillers in *Night Must Fall*

VENUE: Opens tonight, Theatre Royal, Haymarket

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 2

Melvyn Tan marks his 40th birthday with a virtuoso piano recital

VENUE: Tomorrow at the Wigmore Hall



■ CHOICE 3

Greek tragedy, Romanian style: *Les Danaides* moves to Glasgow

VENUE: This weekend at the Old Fruitmarket

THEATRE: Dietrich lives in a stunning portrayal by Sian Phillips. Plus, a beguiling Irish show

One star inside another

Marlene Dietrich apparently believed that Piaf was the empress, while she was merely "the slave with the jar on the head". Although that struck me as seriously overstating the case, I did catch myself wondering if Pam Gems, who has now written each singer's theatrical biography, wasn't herself in sympathy with the sentiment.

After all, the story of Piaf gave the dramatist her most successful and deeply felt play to date. But, at the Oldham Coliseum, even the superb Sian Phillips cannot turn Gems's new *Marlene* into much more than one of those cabaret or compendium shows that have recently been cramming our stages.

Phillips sweeps up the aisle with a flamboyantly bizarre cry of "Did I have a good trip? Is Bismarck a herring?", and makes her majestic way on to the segment of Michael Vale's split set that represents her dressing room. The pretence is that the time is the 1960s and her Dietrich is making a comeback in Paris. She is tired, nervous, garrulous, grandiose, yet so exasperated by the dirt on the dressing-room floor that she falls to her knees like a hausfrau and starts energetically mopping it clean.

One trouble is that, especially in the first half, it is not only she who seems scattered. Gems could be clearer, too. Who is the friend or relative with whom Dietrich has a long, obscure phone conversation about divorce? Moreover, who exactly is or was Vivian Hoffman, the lesbian chum or assistant played here by Lou Gish, and why does Billy Mathias spend the play mooching speechlessly round the stage as an old lady called Mutti? Perhaps their presence does not greatly matter, since

Marlene
Oldham

Marlene is essentially a one-woman show which happens to have a cast-list of three; but even minor questions get distracting if they stay unanswered.

What do we learn of Dietrich from the breezily meandering mix of chat and reminiscence that ensues? Nothing about her Prussian background and Junkers upbringing. Nothing about her Svengali or Frankenstein, the director Josef von Sternberg, except that he taught her what she knew about lighting. Nothing about her men except she had a lot of them, maybe including Jack Kennedy.

Indeed, I was beginning to think that everything I most wanted to know about Dietrich was being neglected until, late in the second half, *Phillips* launched into some reverie about old age, exile and Germany.

This episode, plus some of the songs, would justify Gems and her director, Sean Mathias, in doing the work on the play that may eventually take it to London. *Phillips plays it* beautifully, a quiet intensity replacing Dietrich's egoistic swagger as she wonders why she still feels the need to undertake punishing tours and whether she would have stayed in Germany if Hollywood had not beckoned.

Her answer to the second question, which is no, was reinforced when unrepentant fellow countrymen called her a traitor and spat at her on a trip back home in 1951. "Genocide, my own people, my flesh, my forebears," whispers Phillips, making us share the disbelief and pain.

This is simpler and more effective than the tired device of introducing an invisible newspaper man in order to allow Dietrich yet again to display her eccentric mix of candour, mischief and arrogance. Still, I liked her description of Mahler as "a bowl of coffee ice-cream, only the waiter was too slow" and of her own voice as "a duck-shoot on a salt marsh in Siberia" — although Phillips disproves that particular slur with decent if not hugely Dietrichian renditions of several songs, ending with the inevitable *Falling In Love Again* in the inevitable glittering gown.



Sian Phillips defies the faults of *Marlene* with a display to match any of its subject's

Whatever the flaws of *Marlene*, at least it has a fine actress at its core.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Creating quite a buzz

You Must Tell the Bees
Cork

IN *You Must Tell the Bees* (Firkin Crane Arts Centre), MacIntyre creates a conversation about bees conducted in French, Irish and English. Inside his buzzing language, however, the playwright is more concerned with cities than hives, more interested in love than honey. MacIntyre chooses creatures that offer polar opposites of sensation, the pain of the sting and the sweetness of honey, and uses them to move through an anthology of recognisably human experiences and sensations. The piece operates at the limits of dance, and indeed frequently has more to do with performance art. The company is happy taking a full range of props into the dance, and looks surprisingly at ease working among billowing smoke canisters, constructing a towering beehive in golden metal and even — in an image that echoes some of artist Nigel Rolfe's performances — bathing bare flesh in pints of amber honey. Sometimes, however, director John Scott's desire to conjure up striking visual images overpowers other concerns.

Dancing from the ensemble cast is steady, if seldom captivating or impressive. The dancers look at their most vulnerable in small numbers. But more complex set pieces, such as a scene in which one member of the troupe is surrounded by "bees", stripped and stung to death, achieves a subtle and complex tone that mixes violence, melancholy and a touch of something comic. Rossa O'Snodaigh's music, both live and recorded, does something very similiar, though more regularly, deftly offering the bulwark of exotic live percussion whenever prettiness threatens.

LUKE CLANCY

THE aphorism suggesting that "writing about art is like dancing about architecture", reiterated in Guinness's current press campaign, was never as clever as it hoped. What, after all, is so inconceivable about translating one considered response to space into another? Likewise, Irish Modern Dance Theatre's *You Must Tell the Bees*, a piece in which members of the company dance to multilingual poetry written by Tom MacIntyre, is not nearly as disconcerting as a bald description of the event might suggest.

Of all the Irish playwrights working at present, MacIntyre seems best suited to the dance form. His imagistic theatre has always had a highly mobile, physical aspect that, at its best, has the litheness of free verse.

LONDON

GOTTERDAMMERUNG Deborah Polaski repeats her acclaimed performance as Brünnhilde in the **Royal Opera**'s revival of Richard Jones's and Nigel Lowery's production of Wagner's teutonic epic. Siegmed Jerusalem sings the role of Siegfried. **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden WC2 (0171-304 4000) Tomorrow 4pm.

NIGHT MUST FALL: Jason Donovan and Rosemary Leach in Emlyn Williams's 1935 thriller about a psychopathic murderer on the prowl. **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

WEEKEND AT THE WIGMORE: A hectic schedule starts with a recital tonight (7.30pm) by the acclaimed Norwegian cellist **Oystein Birkeland**. The evening features music by Janáček, Grieg and Shostakovich. Tomorrow (7.30pm), the renowned pianist **Melvyn Tan** celebrates his 40th birthday with a concert including works by Schubert, Mozart and Haydn. On Sunday (11.30am) the **Kocian Quartet** of Prague plays Martinů and Dvořák, while an evening recital (7pm) by the counter-tenor **David Daniels** and pianist Ian Burnside, concludes proceedings. **Wigmore Hall**, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141).

SREBRENICA. Powerful excerpts from this summer's war crimes trial at the Hague: the ethnic cleansing amounting to genocide committed by Bosnian Serbs a year ago. Nicolas Kent directs the actors who also perform in Nuremberg, the same evening. **Tricycle**, 269 Kilburn High Rd, NW9 (0171-328 1000). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri, 7pm, Sat, 6.30pm, mat Wed (Oct 23), 2pm. Until October 26.

ELSEWHERE

CANTERBURY Patrick Marber directs **Dealer's Choice**, his award-winning comedy about obsessive gamblers. The National Theatre production presented in association with Oxford Playhouse arrives here after hugely successful runs at this year's Edinburgh Fringe and in Atlanta, USA. **Marlowe Theatre**, The Friars (01227 787787). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.30pm.

GLASGOW: Silviu Purcarete's 120-strong company from Romania presentthree performances of **Les Danaides**, his expanded version of the one surviving play plus fragments of the Aeschylus trilogy. Rich in amazing images. **Old Fruitmarket**, Albion Street (0141-287 5511). Tomorrow and Sun, 8pm, mat Sun, 2pm.

Also in **Glasgow:** an opportunity to hear Bizet's celebrated opera **The Pearl Fishers** in a concert version performed by the full chorus and orchestra of Scottish Opera. Stephen Clarke conducts. The production goes on to Edinburgh next week. **Theatre Royal**, Hope Street (0141-332 9000). Tomorrow, 7.15pm.

LEEDS Final performance here of Opera North's new production of **Iphigenia in Aulis**, Gluck's rarely performed opera, before the company goes touring. Lynne Dawson and Della Jones head the cast. Valentin Reymond conducts. **Grand Theatre**, 46 New Briggate, (0113 245 9351/440971). Tonight, 7.15pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Mysteries of Ancient China (0171-636 1555). **Brunei** Gallery: Art (0171-637 2388). **Festival Hall:** Imagined Communities (0171-960 4242). **Hayward:** Robert Mapplethorpe, Antony Gormley (0171-928 3144). **National:** Hubert Schmalix's Christ taking Leave of his Mother, Peter Blake (0171-747 2885). **National Portrait:** Photographs by Mark Gerson (0171-306 0055). **The October:** Voodoo Flags (0171-242 7367). **Royal Academy:** Living Bridges (0171-439 7438). **Saatchi:** Young British Artists VI (0171-624 8299).

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

☐ **ACCOMMODATING EVA** Edie Keane plays an illegal Albanian immigrant who takes neat revenge on the lawyer who evicts her from her flat. Tom Dulack directs Sylvia Freedman's new comedy. **King's Head**, 115 Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm.

☐ **BLOOD WEDDING** Alexandra Gilbreath and Jasper Britton play the passionate lovers in Lorca's tragedy. Tim Supple directs a new version by Ted Hughes, with "hot desert" music composed by Adrian Lee. **Young Vic**, 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat (Oct 26, Nov 2), 2.30pm. Until November 2.

☐ **THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT** Paloma Baeza, Paul Jesson and Con O'Neill in Julian Garner's fascinating play concerned with anti-Semitism and survival in Poland, 1938 to 1946. **Hampstead**, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat, 3.30pm.

☐ **LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR** Neil Simon's funny account of working among a team of scriptwriters for comedian Sid Caesar back in the 1950s. Gene Wilder plays Sid. **Queen's**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat 4pm.

☐ **THE LODGER** Murray Melvin (back on the Stratford stage after 33 years) guides us into the relationship between the man thought to be Jack the Ripper and his landlady (Lynn Farleigh). A story once filmed by Hitchcock, now written by Patrick Prior and directed by Philip Hedley. **Theatre Royal**, Gerry Raffles Square, E15 (0181-534 0310). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until November 2.

☐ **NUREMBERG** Edited by Richard Norton-Taylor, directed by Nicolas Kent, a strong and suspenseful account of the case against the Nazi leaders Goering, Rosenberg, Keitel and Speer. **Tricycle**, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW9 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8.45pm, mats Wed (Oct 16), 2pm, Sats, 4pm.

☐ **THE ODD COUPLE** Neil Simon's play wears well, but Jack Klugman and Tony Randall really are getting on a bit these days. Last week. **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.15pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

■ **SHOPPING** Mark Ravenhill's savage play for Out of Joint gays abused in childhood, desperate to be raped if not loved.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

Royal Court Upstairs: Stage (formerly Ambassadors), West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) Mon-Sat 9.15pm.

◪ **VIOLIN TIME.** Another of Ken Campbell's amazing rambles around the world and into his overflowing mind this time with music composed and performed by Teo-Wa Vuong. **National (Cottesloe)**, South Bank, SW1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7.45pm, tomorrow, 2.30pm and 7.45pm. In rep.

☐ **WHEN WE ARE MARRIED** Dawn French, Alison Steadman and Leo McKern head the splendid cast of Jude Kelly's production of the Priestley evergreen, first seen at Chichester. **Savoy**, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers** Phoenix (0171-369 1733). ◪ **Buddy** Strand (0171-930 8800). ■ **Cats** New London (0171-405 0072). ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)** Criterion (0171-369 1737). ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner** Duchess (0171-494 5070). ◪ **Grease** Dominion (0171-416 6060). ☐ **Oliver!** Palladium (0171-494 5020). ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400). ■ **Starlight Express** Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6024). ☐ **The Woman in Black** Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

NEW RELEASES

BROTHERS IN TROUBLE (15) Resonant drama about illegal immigrants in Sixties Britain, with Om Puri and Angeline Ball. Director, Udayan Prasad. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Metro** (0171-437 0757).

◆ **JACK** (PG) Joys and pains of a child with an aging disorder, played by Robin Williams. Flat and mawkish comedy from director Francis Coppola. **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914566) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096).

◆ **LONE STAR** (15) John Sayles's absorbing and humane drama about lives in the Rio Grande. With Chris Cooper and Elizabeth Peña. **Curzon W E** (0171-369 1722) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6706) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096).

CURRENT

ANTONIA'S LINE (15) A Dutch woman's tasty life. Feel-good movie from Dutch feminist Marleen Gorris. **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121).

◆ **COURAGE UNDER FIRE** (15) Denzel Washington searches for truth in the Gulf War. Hall-way intelligent drama, with Meg Ryan. **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914566) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636).

◆ **JUDE** (15) Vigorously depressing version of Hardy's novel about dashed hopes and illicit love, with Christopher Eccleston and Kate Winslet. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

◆ **LAST MAN STANDING** (18) Bruce Willis plays two bootleg gangs against each other. Fancy-looking movie pastiche from director Walter Hill. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

◆ **THE NUTTY PROFESSOR** (12) Lively reworking of the old Jerry Lewis film, with Eddie Murphy as the manic professor who creates a sleek alter ego. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** ◪ (0990 888 990) ◪ **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914566) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031).

SECRETS & LIES (15) Mike Leigh's Cannes triumph: an uneven but absorbing tale about family life, its pains, bonds, and skeletons. With Brenda Blethyn and Timothy Spall. **ABC Panton Street** (0171-930 0631) **Odeons: Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098).

◆ **STRIPTEASE** (15) Demi Moore's stripper seeks custody of her daughter. Clumsy mixture of sex, satire and melodrama, with Burt Reynolds. **ABC Tottenham Ct Rd** (0171-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (01426-914 666) **UCI Whiteley** (0171-792 3332) **Virgin Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636).

A SUMMER'S TALE (U) Vacationing student ponders female charms. Excellent diversion from Eric Rohmer. **Curzon Phoenix** (0171-369 1721) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402).

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

ART GALLERIES

PARKIN GALLERY 18 Sept-18 Oct. Born with a 'golden spoon' ARTISTS OF IMMODEST MEANS. 11 Motcomb St SW1 0171 235 8144

EVENTS

SIR PETER USTINOV will become President of **The Players Theatre** on it's 60th Anniversary, Sun 20th Oct, 8.15 at The Savoy Theatre WC2. Cabaret by Stars of The Players. *Tkts (1 once £25) (mems £15) ONLY* from The Players Th 839 1134

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Tom't 7.30 **LA TRAVIATA** Tomor 7.30 **DON QUIXOTE**

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Office & Standby info. Tickets available on the day. **The Royal Opera** Today 1.30 & 7.30, Mon *(Last Night)* 7.30 **LA BOHEME** Tomor 4.00 (First Night) **GOTTERDAMMERUNG** Wed 5.00 **SIEGFRIED**

CIRCUSES

BILLY SMART'S *Quality Big Top Show* **Opens October 12** for a short season. **BLACKHEATH** Tel: 0181 305 9595. All seats individually bookable. Our Only London venue

To advertise in this section please call the Entertainments Team on **0171 680 6222** or fax **0171 481 9313**

THEATRES

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journal. **SUNSET BOULEVARD** Winner of 7 Tony Awards Including BEST MUSICAL. Starring RITA MORENO. FOR 4 WEEKS ONLY. 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS. CALL 344 0055 (bkg fee) 420 0000. GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee). No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers. Recorded Information 0171 379 6884. Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00. PETULA CLARK RETURNS 4 NOV.

ALBERY THEATRE 0171 369 1730. cc 0171 344 4444. Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. LIMITED SEASON TO 16 NOV. **UNCLE VANYA** by Anton Chekhov. FRANCES BARBER, CONSTANCE CUMMINGS, TREVOR EVE, DEREK JACOBI, RICHARD JOHNSON, PEGGY MOUNT, JOHN NORRINGTON, IMOGEN STUBBS. Directed by Bill Bryden. "A fascinating intelligent production" D.Tel. "The best Chekhov I have seen" S.Times.

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6003. cc bkg fee 344 4444. Grps 0171 416 6075. "A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" Std. DIANA RIGG, DAVID SUCHET in EDWARD ALBEE'S "MASTERPIECE" Tms. **WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF**. Dir by Howard Davies. Opens 30 October. LIMITED SEASON.

APOLLO 494 5070/344 4444/420 0000. Grps 494 5454/580 6783. PETER DAVISON in Frederick Knott's Classic 50's Thriller. **DIAL M FOR MURDER**. "MASTERLY" D.Mi. "MARVELLOUS" Ind. "A CLASSIC" D.Tel. Mon-Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.15.

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000. Grps 416 6075/413 3321. Andrew Lloyd Webber's **STARLIGHT EXPRESS** THE FASTEST SHOW ON EARTH. White knuckle runs 19.45 daily. Tue & Sat 3pm Tickets from £12.50.

To advertise in ENTERTAINMENTS Tel: 0171 680 6222 or fax: 0171 481 9313

CAMBRIDGE 494 5080/416 6080 *344 4444/420 0000 (+ bkg fee)* Groups 494 5454 416 6075/413 3321/436 6588. **GREASE** FROM 24 OCTOBER.

CHAPEL OF LOVE-PICCADILLY CIRCUS 0171 287 4433/ 420 0000/ 344 4444. Tkts also at HMV/ Tower Records. LONDON'S NEW COMEDY SENSATION. **JOEY & GINA'S WEDDING**. You're more than a member of the audience ..you're part of the family! Price includes show, live music and unlimited Italian buffet. Tues - Fri 7.45, Sat 7.45, Sun 5.

COMEDY THEATRE 0171 369 1731 cc 344 4444 (bkg fee) 420 0000. Eves 8 Thurs Mat 3 Sat Mat 5. **MAGGIE SMITH** "brilliant beyond belief" Ind. **MARGARET TYZACK** "genuinely moving" D.Tel. **TALKING HEADS** Written & directed by **ALAN BENNETT**. "wonderfully touching and funny" Tms. FROM 22 OCT LIMITED SEASON.

CRITERION 389 1737/344 4444. **REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** in THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (abridged). "Hilarious" Times. Mats Thur at 3, Sat at 5. Sun at 4, Eves at 8pm. THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (abridged). Tuesday at 8pm.

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0300. **GREASE** Starring RICHARD CALKIN and SHONA LINDSAY. "A Monster Hit" D. Mir. Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm. TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM 24 OCT MOVES TO **CAMBRIDGE THEATRE**.

DOMINION 416 6052/420 0000 (+ bkg fee) Grps 416 6075/312 1970. LONDON'S CHRISTMAS CRACKER! ANTHONY NEWLEY. **SCROOGE** THE MUSICAL. "BREATHLESS SOARAWAY SHOW - MAGNIFICENT" DV Expr. 6 Nov 96 - 1 Feb 97.

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000. **MISS SAIGON** "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 8TH EXTRAORDINARY YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm. Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS 0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE).

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/420 0000 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321. Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30. "A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std. NOW IN ITS 6th YEAR. **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER**. "Gloriously Outrageous" T Out.

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/312 8033. BARRY STANTON, MICHAEL HIGGS. Susan Hill's **THE WOMAN IN BLACK**. Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt. "The most thrilling and chilling play for years" D.Mail. NOW IN ITS 8TH YEAR. Mon-Sat 8pm. Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm.

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 312 1990 (no bkg fee). Some Experiences You Never Forget. WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS. The Royal National Theatre production. JB Priestley's **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**. "THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN" D.Mail. "One of the most intoxicating, theatrically imaginative experiences of the 1990s" Eve Stand. "TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA" D.Tel. Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30.

GIELGUD THEATRE 0171 494 5065/0171 312 1990. BOB HOSKINS & JAMES CALLIS in **OLD WICKED SONGS** a new play by Jon Marans. 1998 Pulitzer Prize Finalist. directed by Elijah Moshinsky. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Thurs mat 2.30pm, Sat mat 4pm. Prevs from 13 Nov.

HAYMARKET 0171 930 8800 cc 0171 344 4444 Grps 0171 436 5588. Eves 8pm Mats Thur 3pm & Sat 4pm. FOR 10 WEEKS ONLY! **JASON DONOVAN**. **ROSEMARY LEACH** in EMLYN WILLIAMS' Classic Thriller. **NIGHT MUST FALL**. OPENS TONIGHT AT 7PM.

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (fee). Grps 494 5454/413 3311/436 5588. ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL. **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**. Directed by HAROLD PRINCE. NOW BKG TO MAY 97. Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. Apply to Box Office daily for returns.

To advertise in ENTERTAINMENTS Tel: 0171 680 6222 or fax: 0171 481 9313

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt surv chg) 420 0000. Grps 0171 420 0300. LAST 2 WEEKS TO SEE. RUSS ABBOT. FROM 21 OCT TONY AWARD-WINNING ROBERT LINDSAY IS FAGIN "A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" D. Mail. **OLIVER!** 2ND SPECTACULAR YEAR. "LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE. YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE" S.Times. Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30. SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL. NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS.

LYCEUM cc 0171 656 1806. 0990 500 800/ 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 416 6076. TIM RICE & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR**. OPENS 19 NOVEMBER. (no bkg fee for personal callers at the temporary Box Offices at the Apollo Victoria & Dominion Theatres. Ring 656 1806 for opening times.)

LYRIC 0171 494 5045. cc 420 0100/344 4444 (bkg fee). "THE MOST UNPRETENTIOUSLY ENJOYABLE SHOW IN LONDON" Tms. **BY JEEVES** THE ALAN AYCKBOURN & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER MUSICAL. "...HAD THE AUDIENCE BUCKLING UP WITH LAUGHTER" Ind. Eves 7.45, Mats Weds & Sat 3pm. Concessions available.

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252. Grps 0171 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000. **OLIVIER** Tom't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15. **THE ALCHEMIST** Ben Jonson. **LYTTELTON** Tom't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30. **JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN** Henrik Ibsen in a new version by Nicholas Wright. **COTTESLOE** Tom't 7.45, Tomor 2.30 & 7.45. **VIOLIN TIME** Ken Campbell. Today 2.30pm: **PLATFORM: LOUD & CLEAR.** Poetry read by Tony Banks MP & Trevor MacDonald. Tom't 6pm: **PLATFORM: EMERGENCY KIT,** poetry read by Simon Armitage & Jo Shapcott.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079. 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000. Grps 0171 413 3311/436 5588. THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL. **CATS**. Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00. LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45. LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

OLD VIC 928 7616/312 8034. THE PETER HALL COMPANY. David Rintoul, Nicky Henson, Diane Fletcher, Deborah Grant, Googie Withers, John McCallum. OSCAR WILDE'S MASTERPIECE. **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**. "GREAT & GLORIOUS" S. Tms. Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00.

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444. Grps 0171 413 3311. THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL. **LES MISERABLES**. NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR. Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30. Latecomers not admitted until the interval. LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee). **BEST MUSICAL** Olivier/Drama Awards. Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards. WILLY RUSSELL'S **BLOOD BROTHERS**. ...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail. 10TH TRIUMPHANT YEAR. Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4.

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734/344 4444/0171 420 0000 (24hrs). OLIVIER Tom't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15. **THE ALCHEMIST** Ben Jonson. LYTTELTON Tom't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30. **JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN** Henrik Ibsen in a new version by Nicholas Wright. COTTESLOE Tom't 7.45, Tomor 2.30 & 7.45. **VIOLIN TIME** Ken Campbell. Today 2.30pm: **PLATFORM: LOUD & CLEAR.** Poetry read by Tony Banks MP & Trevor MacDonald. Tom't 6pm: **PLATFORM: EMERGENCY KIT,** poetry read by Simon Armitage & Jo Shapcott.

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 cc 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). JANET TEALE, OWEN McTEER. 'achingly accurate...impeccable' S.Tms. **A DOLL'S HOUSE** by Henrik Ibsen. a version by Frank McGuinness. directed by Anthony Page. From 22 Oct - Limited Season.

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 9987/420 0000/344 4444/ 420 0200. Grps 0800 614903. DIRECT FROM BROADWAY GRAMMY AWARD WINNING MUSICAL. **SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE** THE SONGS OF LEIBER & STOLLER. Directed by Jerry Zaks. and starring STAND BY ME, ON BROADWAY, PEARL'S A SINGER, *LOVE POTION #9*, RUBY BABY, CHARLIE BROWN, I'M A WOMAN, TREAT ME NICE, BABY, THAT IS ROCK & ROLL, SEARCHIN', POISON IVY, HOUND DOG, KANSAS CITY, FOOLS FALL IN LOVE, SAVED. Prevs 15 Oct, Opens 23 Oct.

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400. First Call 420 0100 cc 344 4444. Groups 420 0200. "A MUSICAL MASTERPIECE" Int.Her.Trib. **MARTIN GUERRE** A New Musical by BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG. "C'EST MAGNIFIQUE AN ECSTATIC AUDIENCE ROARED IT'S APPRECIATION" D. Mail. Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00.

QUEEN'S 494 5040/344 4444. Grps 494 5454/436 5588. **GENE WILDER**. "Puts the Gene into genius" D.Mail. IN NEIL SIMON'S hilarious new comedy.. LAUGHTER ON THE 23rd FLOOR. "Funny and genuinely touching" D.T. Eves 8pm, Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. LONDON (0171 638 8891). BARBICAN: AS YOU LIKE IT previews 18 October. THE PIT: IN THE COMPANY OF MEN previews 16 October. STRATFORD (01789 295623/ cc 0171 413 1452). RST: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM previews 12 October. SWAN: THE CHERRY ORCHARD Tom't 7.30. TOP: EVERYMAN previews 6 November.

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888. cc 0171 420 0100 (no bkg fee) / 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee). Tue - Sat 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. DAWN FRENCH, ALISON STEADMAN, ANNETTE BADLAND, JUDITH BARKER, PAUL COPLEY, *SHIRLEY ANNE FIELD*, DENIS LILL, ROGER LLOYD PACK and LEO McKERN. **WHEN WE ARE MARRIED** by J.B. Priestley. Directed by Jude Kelly. FOR 7 WEEKS ONLY. "A glorious, glowing reveal" S.Times.

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399. 0171 413 3588 (24hr/no bkg fee). Groups 0171 413 3321. **TOMMY**. PAUL KEATING as Tommy, KIM WILDE as Mrs Walker. "BREATHTAKING" S. Times. "SPECTACULAR" FT. "BRILLIANT" Observer. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm (all seats £15) & 8.30 pm; Sat 3pm & 8.30pm. LIMITED DAILY AVAILABILITY.

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■ POP 1

Are Cast a nine-month wonder, or destined to be the biggest thing in Britpop?



■ POP 2

... and is the Aussie songwriter Ed Kuepper 'this century's last undiscovered genius'?

THE TIMES POP ARTS



■ POP 3

The reclusive Polly Jean Harvey teams up with John Parish for a packed gig in a saloon bar



■ POP 4

Gabrielle's new single, and all the other top sounds: see *The Times Directory*, out tomorrow

Paul Sexton talks to – no, listens to – Cast's motormouth front man on the eve of their biggest tour

Power of positive thinking

The American writer Fran Lebowitz once said that the opposite of talking isn't listening, it's waiting. In which case, John Power's fellow members of Cast must be used to twiddling their thumbs.

Power is the garrulous front man of one of British rock's most resounding success stories of the 1995-96 season. Engage him in conversation about Cast, about music, about anything, and you are advised to bring a shoehorn with which to get your words in edgeways. But then, you would probably also have a lot to say if you had risen from an existence spent drawing social security in Liverpool to leading the band of your dreams, then seen them achieve four big single hits, sell out tours and sell half a million albums in nine months.

Such is Cast's status that their song *Alright* is now being played around the world as the music for a new scooter commercial, while their anthemic ballad *Walkaway* became a natural sporting choice whenever a television director needed a downbeat piece of music to match a scene during Euro 96 and the Olympics.

The next steps in the group's ascent to the topmost of the popmost are taken this weekend, when Cast begin their biggest UK tour, playing 3,000 to 5,000 capacity venues. On Monday, the new single *Flying* will be in the record stores, while the album *All Change* continues its residency in the Top 40.

Cast's extraordinary success has everything to do with unalloyed easy-access guitar music and very little to do with the image consultants usually attendant on such occasions. Their ebullient spokesman takes a deep breath and says it is also a tribute to the power of the possible.

"Three, four years ago I was on the dole, writing songs and dreaming," Power says. "People relate to our music because they feel it's about them. They believe it because it's not so contrived. The reason I'm like this, man, is I threw myself into it. In other parts of life, I'm not as confident, I'm just as fearful as anyone.

"But the things that turn you on you take on board: people singing certain songs, people fighting for certain rights; Einstein or Gandhi or John Lennon or Marvin Gaye, these people and many, many more. The inspiration isn't just musical, it's all around."

Cast have also come this far without the seemingly *de rigueur* pouting and scrabbling for position that seems to obsess the pop-rock mainstream. Launched only in July last year, they were immediately thrust into the media contrivance of Britpop, but have comfortably outlived a term that, as Power says, was

> "The things we hope to touch on in our music are not in and not out, they just are"

never welcome in the Cast house. "We have no time for labels like that," he says. "Are Chas and Dave Britpop? That's what I want to know.

"When the hype was kicking around last summer about every band, there were 20 groups being hailed as the next big thing. I was saying: 'You can hype us if you want, we don't care. But when the hype goes, we'll deliver.'

"If your music is built upon hype, when the hype goes, you crumble with it. The things we hope to touch upon in our music are not in and not out, they just are."

Flying is a typically straightforward lyric by the aptly named Power. Like previous compositions, notably Cast's debut hit *Finetime*, it is a simple statement about personal empowerment written by a young man who is experiencing his second taste of fame, but the first on his own terms.

At the turn of the 1990s, Power was a member of another Liverpool quartet, the La's, whose brief period in office embraced one memorable pop tune, *There She Goes*. In those days, he was a non-singing bass player, but his plans were already percolating.

"Some people may have left a band they're embarrassed by, but the La's were a good band," he says. "People say 'Did you want to be a front man?' and I say no, but I wanted to write songs, so the bass would be left in the corner and the six-string guitar started getting picked up.

"The day I left the La's, I had Cast. But I didn't have the band. I had the theory."

Power, who did not play any instrument at all until he was 17, attributes some of his positivity to his upbringing. "Luckily I didn't have a mother or a father who said: 'That's the devil's music'. When people say 'Try harder,' they should say 'Let go'. If you are trying to learn something, it's only when you let it happen that it comes. What I'm trying to say is you are capable of achieving what's within your mind."

He has two brothers who work in finance and live abroad. "They got an education. School for me was a brilliant social thing. You can regret not getting tuned into certain subjects that you're interested in now, but you were too busy worrying about day-to-day things that were important — music, clothes and hanging around."

Not only has Power already written Cast's second album, due for release next spring or thereabouts, he is now sketching out songs for the third. "We've done a debut album which has made a bit of a noise. The second will be better and the third better still. The first album is screaming for attention, it's a band saying, 'Hey, look over *here*', so every song is fighting for space. It's got energy and enthusiasm and it's young. The second one has still got that, but maybe I'm warming up a bit."

What Cast will not lack is self belief. "I know how good the songs are," Power says. "I've just got to hedge my bets that *you* know how good they are."

● *Cast's UK tour begins at the Brighton Centre tomorrow. The single* Flying *is released by Polydor on Monday*

LINDSAY MAGGS



"You are capable of achieving what's in your mind," says John Power, who must have had success on his

Voice of frenzy

BREAKING cover with her first new material in two years, the reclusive Polly Jean Harvey recently reunited with her former musical partner John Parish for an album and live work. Ever the obtuse artist, she elected to headline four shows at the Fleece & Firkin saloon in her adopted home town instead of a conventional tour. Half the

POP

Harvey/Parish
Bristol

London music industry dutifully decamped westward. It was worth it.

Almost immediately the odd couple proceeded to dismember their new album *Dance Hall at Louse Point* with irreverent gusto. Some of these tracks were mauled beyond recognition, stretching each extreme of raucous dissonance and romantic desolation to breaking point.

Not that this twisted vaudeville pandered to conventional notions of entertainment. Building from the softly twangy lovelorn lament *Rope Bridge Crossing* to the spine-chilling howl of *City of No Sun* and the brooding emotional numbness of *Civil War Correspondent*, Harvey's heady cocktail of hollow-eyed dementia and bluesy despair proved as unsettling as it was spellbinding.

Even serene torch-song interludes such as *Un Cercle Autour du Soleil* were laced with a slithering, unspoken menace. But the singer also showed her playful side by duetting on a ramshackle medley of Serge Gainsbourg compositions with guest Mick Harvey, Nick Cave's longtime sideman. Indeed, if these shows prove anything about the revamped Polly Jean, it is her ever-growing mastery of diverse musical moods.

STEPHEN DALTON



A man totally untainted by success

How can you release 21 albums of divine songs and still be unknown? Ed Kuepper, this is no life for you



CAITLIN MORAN

Everyone, eventually, gains the recognition they deserve. Talent's like a pulsar star — its erratic, machine-scrambling pulses gather attention sooner or later, even if the star in question is 40 million light years away.

Of course, in order to find a pulsar, you have to know roughly where to look for it, what with the universe being as large as everything and all that. Astronomers will concentrate their efforts on the areas around "star-nurseries" — whirlwinds of gases that spin faster and faster until they collapse in on themselves. In the resulting nuclear explosion a new star is formed. The broken whirlwind spits out this sticky, bright new star, which then wheels its way across the heavens, simply being beautiful, until it dies.

Things are much the same in the music industry: talent seekers in this country focus their efforts in the areas around star nurseries — Manchester, London, Glasgow and Bristol — waiting for the clubs to spit out newly minted chart heroes. This is where we expect to find stars. We do not really bother to look anywhere else.

Particularly not the area around the Australian town of Spit Junction. Spit Junction is a contrary place — the only star it's ever kicked out is the single exception to the pulsar theory. This man has released 21 albums, each a raging heaven of sound and song, and somehow avoided publicity, notoriety or sales that break into five figures.

Spit Junction's star isn't even a star; he's a fearsomely grumpy man who wears very large trousers and has problems sleeping at night. However, his albums are a galaxy pressed into vinyl, and make most other songwriters look cramped, confined and half-deaf. Ed Kuepper, for it is he, is this century's last major undiscovered genius. His back catalogue is a continent awaiting discovery. He's so rare I can barely believe I'm talking to him.

"You've heard I was scary and grumpy?" Kuepper chuckles. "Well, that might be a ruse to avoid talking to annoying people. I figure if people are scared when they approach you, they're not going to start asking you stupid questions, or saying stupid things. In reality, you're talking to the friendliest man in the world."

He chuckles again, in such a way that you know salt is the ideal accompaniment for this statement. In the past, Kuepper has been known to throw large and heavy objects around in the studio, frustrated with musicians who don't sympathise with his CinemaScope vision of music.

"No, it wasn't that," Kuepper interjects. "They were just incompetent."

Still, it doesn't show on the finished albums. Everything sounds truly perfect. It's so hard to pick out highlights in a career this long, but *Sleepyhead* would make the Top Ten; a simple, finger-picked ode to his sleeping wife which then ignites, as a massed choir punches its way into the song; rising fierce like dawn in the tropics. By the chorus your ears are in shock. *Honey Steel's Gold* is still awaiting a name for the genre it invented; a swampy, narcotic haze that seems to be struggling towards heaven with every bar. Then there's the way *Electrical Storm* makes sparks fly from your fingers, and the Crowded House-like joy of *Black Ticket Day*.

If you'd like to wonder at an undiscovered star, and claim it as your own, buy any and all of Ed Kuepper's albums.

● *Recommended Ed Kuepper albums:* Honey Steel's Gold; Electrical Storm; Black Ticket Day; Serene Machine; Today Wonder *and the current* Frontierland, *all on Hot Records*

joni mitchell





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both albums represent a wealth of material from an unparalleled career.



■ POP 5

The good, the bad, and Yoko: all of life, circa 1968, is on *The Rolling Stones Rock and Roll Circus*



■ POP 6

Counting Crows *deserve* to get the bird for the depressing *Recovering the Satellites*

THE TIMES POP ARTS



■ POP 7

... but the reunited Power Station do unexpectedly pull it off on *Living in Fear*



■ POP 8

... while the new Irish prodigy, Mundy, makes a big, big impression with *Jelly Legs*

Dust your ya-yas off (if you can find them)

POP ALBUMS: After 28 years the Rock and Roll Circus finally rolls up. **David Sinclair** reports

VARIOUS ARTISTS
The Rolling Stones Rock and Roll Circus
(Abkco/London 1268)
WITH just two weeks to go until the "new" Beatles album, *Anthology III*, the pre-Christmas grave-raiding season is already under way. The latest exhumation is *The Rolling Stones Rock and Roll Circus*, an ill-starred event that has passed into pop folklore. Hosted by and featuring the Rolling Stones, the Circus was an all-night show which gathered together various luminaries of the Swinging Sixties, including Jethro Tull, The Who, Taj Mahal and Marianne Faithfull. It was filmed for television on December 11, 1968, but unfortunately Mick Jagger felt that the Stones' performance was below par, and neither the soundtrack nor the movie has seen the light of day until now.

You can see Jagger's point. *Jumping Jack Flash* is decidedly limp, and *No Expectations* seems to be pitched uncomfortably high for his voice. But by the time they rattle through *Sympathy for the Devil*, it all sounds a lot more respectable.

Before that there is an oddly mixed bag of treats. The Who rip through their bizarre "mini-opera", *A Quick One While He's Away*, with tremendous gusto, but it still sounds more like a music-hall spoof than a defining moment of the era. Elsewhere, odd moments of brilliance, such as Jethro Tull's performance of *Song for Jeffrey*, are interspersed with the mediocre or downright ghastly; anyone for Yoko Ono squawking her way through a loose jam called *Whole Lotta Yoko*?

Of greatest historical significance is a ragged rendering of the Beatles' *Yer Blues* by the Dirty Mac, a scratch "supergroup" comprising John Lennon, Eric Clapton, Keith Richards and Mitch Mitchell. It is worth investigating, if only to hear the frightful botch they make coming out of the instrumental passage. They may have seemed like gods back then, but with the benefit of hindsight, this sounds only too human, after all.

The world premiere screening of *The Rock and Roll Circus* takes place at the New York Film Festival this weekend; the British premiere is on Tuesday at the Astoria, London WC2. The video is released November 14.



Twilight of the gods: the Dirty Macs — from left, Eric Clapton, John Lennon, Mitch Mitchell and Keith Richards — prove only too human

COUNTING CROWS
Recovering the Satellites
(Geffen/MCA GED 24975)
IT WAS always going to be tough to follow up the moody genius of their debut album, *August and Everything After*, and while Counting Crows have plainly given it their best shot, *Recovering the Satellites* is nowhere near as good.

Singer and chief songwriter Adam Duritz was never going to turn into Mr Happy-Go-Lucky, but whereas the songs on *August* were leavened by moments of optimism and tunes that tugged at the heartstrings, here most of the numbers are left to simmer slowly in a dark stew of introspection that is too much to digest comfortably.

Besides, how tortured can the life of an average American rock star really be? "I feel like I'm fading away/Like sometimes when I hear myself on the radio," he sings on *Have You Seen Me Lately?*, a problem we are all familiar with. While his voice retains its impassioned edge, and the playing is faultless, the album is a rather joyless experience overall.

THE POWER STATION
Living in Fear
(Chrysalis/EMI 8 53984)
THEY looked alarmingly out of condition on *Top of the Pops* the other night, and you would imagine that, short of a Tin Machine revival, this would be the most uncalled-for reunion in the history of pop. But here it is, and despite the obvious aesthetic reservations, it rocks. Sticking to the blueprint of their "one-off" debut of 1985, singer Robert Palmer, guitarist Andy Taylor, drummer Tony Thompson and "new" bass player Bernard Edwards (who died shortly after producing this album) have concocted a similarly uncomfortable combination of bubblegum heavy metal and blue-eyed soul on steroids that will offend connoisseurs of both genres.

Dope is as heavy as anything on the current Metallica album, while their cover of the Marvin Gaye standard *Let's Get It On* aspires to the sensitivity of the original. Taken with the requisite pinch of salt, it is actually a lot of fun, and with lyrics such as "What good's a rock without a roll?/It's a sorry looking donut if it doesn't have a hole", how else can you take it?

MUNDY
Jelly Legs
(Epic/Sony 486590)
IS THE world ready for Mundy? Borne aloft on a wave of gushing hyperbole, Mundy is a 21-year-old Irish prodigy with a substantial chunk of his record company's future apparently stuffed in his raggedy jeans pocket. His debut album is a stirring compendium of songs, ringing with emotions as big as the guitar sound. Although prone to rather mannered Bono-isms on heavy set pieces such as *Sisters*, the confessional tone of the lyrics and spiritual cast of the songwriting is closer to early Waterboys albums.

TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	**Natural**	Peter Andre (Mushroom)
2	**K**	Kula Shaker (Columbia)
3	**The Score**	Fugees (Columbia)
4	**Greatest Hits**	Simply Red (East West)
5	**Falling Into You**	Celine Dion (Epic)
6	**Travelling Without Moving**	Jamiroquai (Sony S2)
7	**Jagged Little Pill**	Alanis Morissette (Maverick)
8	**Sheryl Crow**	Sheryl Crow (A&M)
9	**Older**	George Michael (Virgin)
10	**Moseley Shoals**	Ocean Colour Scene (MCA)

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The swing of the new

JAZZ ALBUMS

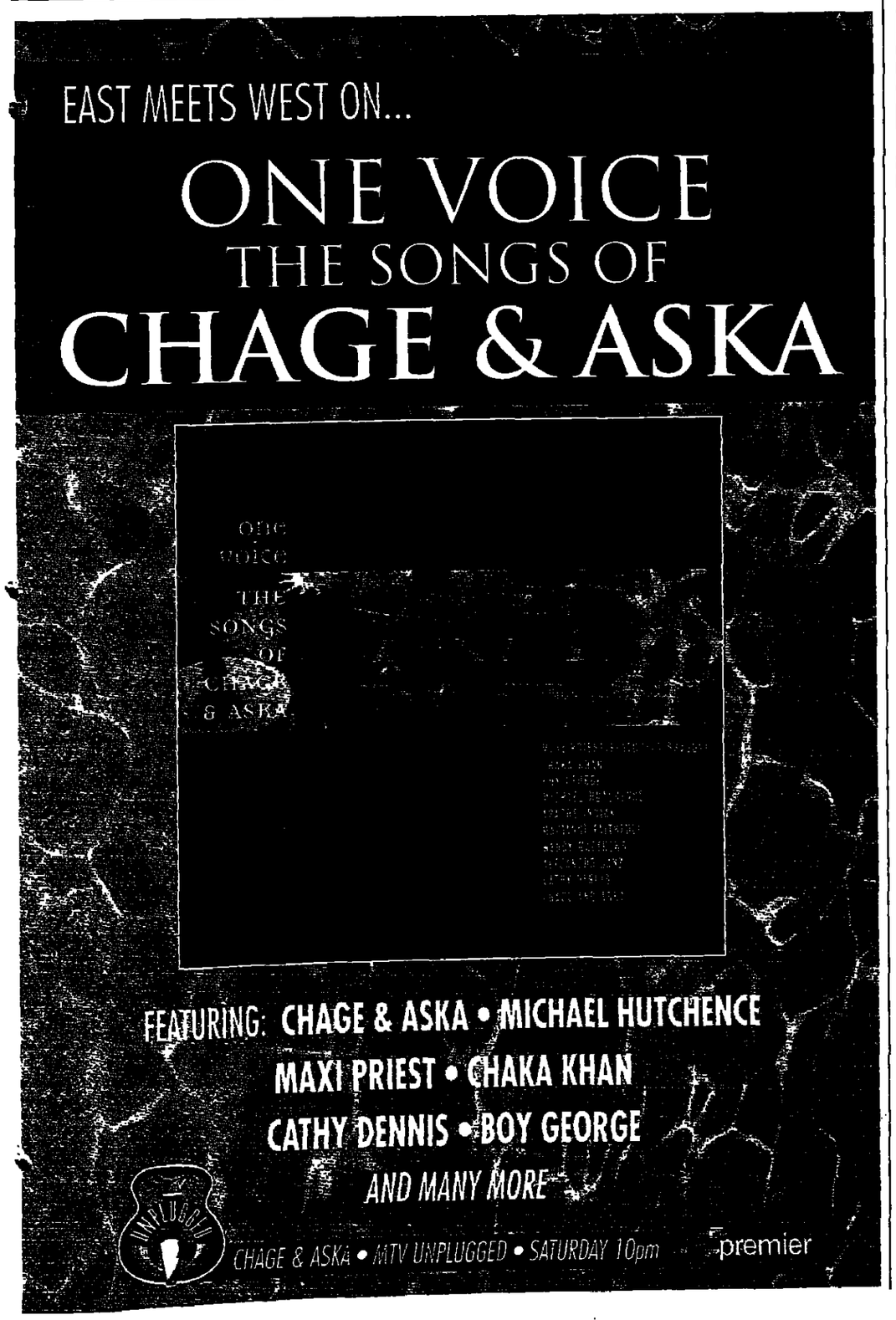
JOSHUA REDMAN
Freedom in the Groove
(Warner Bros 9362-46330-2)
THIS aptly-named recording, comprised entirely of Joshua Redman originals, is a great deal more contemporary-sounding than his previous efforts, which endeared him as much to mainstream fans as to hip young things.

The material ranges from smart, funky, groove-based workouts for both Redman (on soprano and alto as well as tenor) and his front-line partner, guitarist Peter Bernstein, through bluesy shuffles, to more exclusively jazz-based pieces. Redman sounds more relaxed than ever before on record, perhaps because he has clearly set the agenda for this album.

BRIAN LEMON/ALAN BARNES OCTET
Old Hands — Young Minds
(Zephyr Records ZECD12)
CONTEMPORARY British mainstream jazz, whether played by old hands such as pianist Brian Lemon and bassist Dave Green (both featured on this album of standards), or by the plethora of younger talent on display here — co-leader/arranger Alan Barnes, trumpeter Gerard Presencer, vibes player Anthony Kerr and reedsmen Andy Panayi and Iain Dixon — is arguably undervalued in this country, and indisputably underrecorded. Zephyr exists to change all that, and this is the latest example of top-class musicianship from the Portsmouth-based label.

With unfussy arrangements, superb soloing (particularly from Barnes) and a rock-solid rhythm section (Clark Tracey on drums, plus either Green or Alec Dankworth on bass), this is straightahead jazz at its best.

CHRIS PARKER



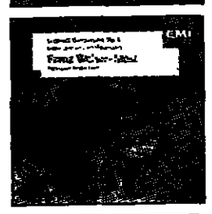
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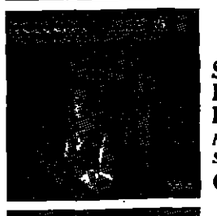
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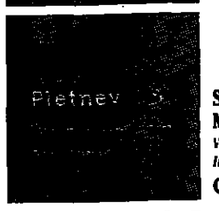
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■ FILM

The actor's actor, Martin Landau, turns his skills to *The Adventures of Pinocchio*



■ OPERA

Singers on the hoof: after the earthquake, San Francisco Opera goes on the road

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ RADIO

Have Jenni Murray and the *Woman's Hour* team been unfairly criticised?



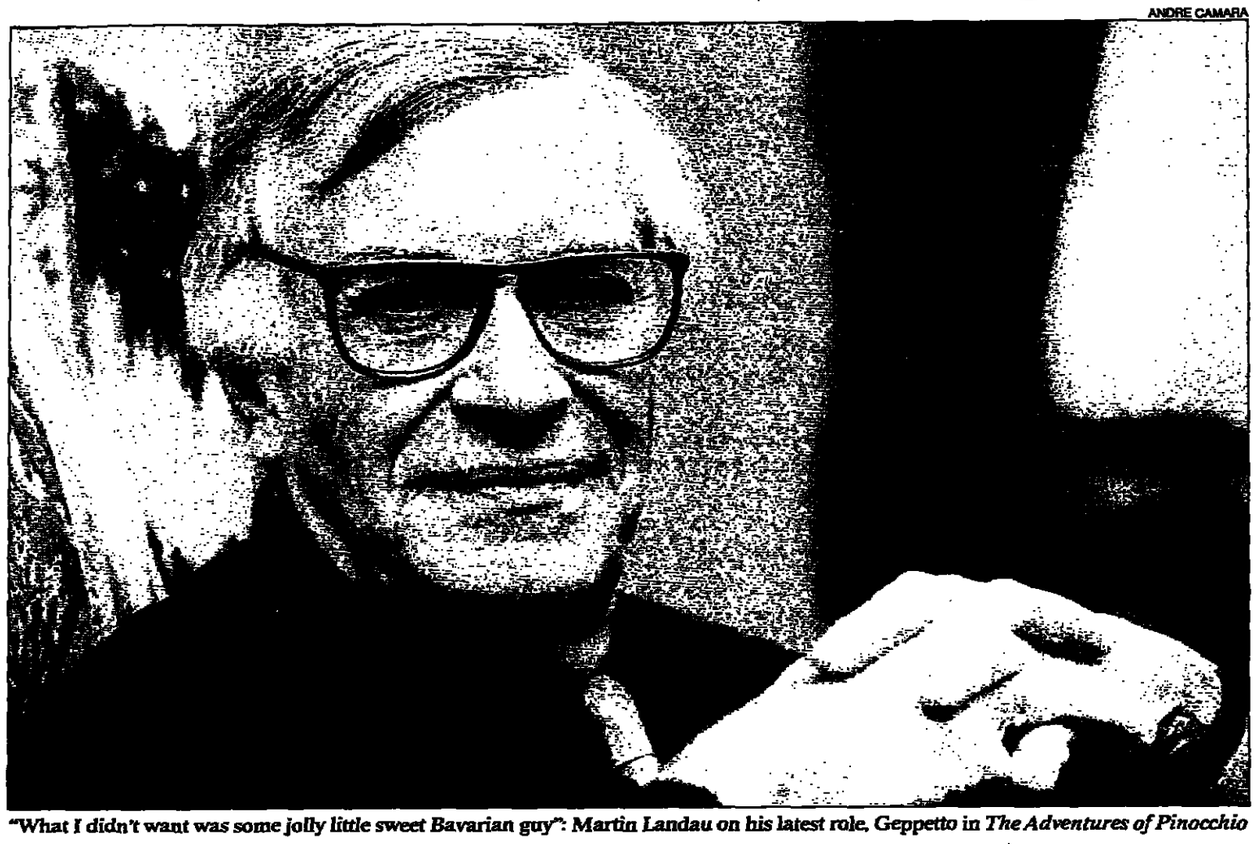
■ TOMORROW

Reviews of Manic Street Preachers, and a flamenco rock happening at the Albert Hall

CINEMA: Martin Landau tells **Matt Wolf** why he always refuses easy options

Nose to nose with fame again

ANDRE CAMARA



"What I didn't want was some jolly little sweet Bavarian guy": Martin Landau on his latest role, Geppetto in The Adventures of Pinocchio

If you are Martin Landau, Hollywood's new Geppetto in *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, the difficulty must be finding a suitable encore to one of the most acclaimed screen performances in recent years. The actor's portrayal of Bela Lugosi in Tim Burton's *Ed Wood* won him a 1994 supporting actor Oscar and virtually every critics' award going, as well as the renewed respect of an industry that had several times written him off.

A virtuoso turn, the performance proved that this longtime teacher of actors — Jack Nicholson, Warren Oates and Harry Dean Stanton number among Landau's former students — knows a thing or two about acting himself. His Lugosi dignified the film world's favourite *Dracula* and found vestiges of grandeur in a milieu otherwise defined by kitsch.

Ed Wood followed Francis Coppola's *Tucker: The Man and His Dream* and Woody Allen's *Crimes and Misdemeanours* — which brought successive Oscar nominations to Landau in 1988 and 1989 — in forging a career renaissance for the Brooklyn-born actor who remains best-known as the disguise expert from television's *Mission: Impossible* in the Sixties.

Landau trained under Lee Strasberg at the Actors Studio in New York, then went to Hollywood in 1958 to do films such as Hitchcock's *North By Northwest*, only to slide during the Seventies into such less-than-memorable titles as *Black Gunn*, *A Town Called Hell* and *Meteor*.

Small wonder, then, that Landau felt a particular affinity with Lugosi. "I've been very aware of working in crappy movies and bringing some kind of credibility to them: it's not easy," says the sixtysomething actor, who will not reveal his exact age: "You're only as old as the industry perceives you to be: once they have a number, the thinking stops."

The Adventures of Pinocchio will not win any Oscars, but it does confirm Landau's gift for refusing the easy acting option. Though the woodcutter Geppetto's emerging bond with the puppet Pinocchio could prompt ready-made sentimentality, Landau makes something quietly poignant of an ageing man's belated discovery of the family he never thought he would have.

"It's a coming of age for Geppetto," Landau says, explaining his attraction to a "live-action *Pinocchio* that would not have been technologically possible even two years ago".

"Geppetto is afraid of commitment, of women, of his own feelings. He's a guy who's stuck, who's too old to change, and by the end he has a family. My whole take was that it's never too late for that to happen if you embrace life, embrace love. But what I didn't want was some jolly little sweet Bavarian guy."

Despite respectable reviews, *The Adventures of Pinocchio* died in America this summer, a fact that Landau attributes to poor timing. "It was stupid to put the picture out during the Olympics. I kept saying, release it after the summer but before the Christmas rush, but no one listened to me."

If Landau has his way, Hollywood will be listening to him ever more intently. He is one of five partners in a production company, Silver Street Pictures, backed to the tune of $250 million and under contract to MGM-UA. Committed to making films at the lower end of the financial spectrum, the company is planning one movie to be directed by Michael Apted (*Coal Miner's Daughter*), with Marcello Mastroianni the hoped-for star, and another written and directed by Landau. Before that, he will be seen opposite Halle Berry as a dying Beverly Hills millionaire in *BAPS*; Ian Richardson plays his butler.

And though he turned down Judd Hirsch's part in *Independence Day* and had no interest in reprising *Mission: Impossible* on the big screen — "that's history," he says bluntly — Landau is clearly pleased once again to be a Hollywood player. Does his career disprove the adage that there are no second acts to American lives?

Landau smiles. "They stopped three-act plays in the United States, but I haven't; I'm on my third act. I always felt like a pinch-hitter waiting to be put up to bat. I really felt that if someone pitched that ball over the plate, I'd hit it out of the ballpark. I knew that and believed it totally."

● *The Adventures of Pinocchio opens in Britain on Oct 18*

Homeless in California

OPERA: **Jamie James** on the trials of the San Francisco company

The severe earthquake that rocked San Francisco in 1989 also sent a nasty tremor through one of the city's most venerable arts institutions, its opera company, when engineers said they would need at least a year to repair the damage done to the War Memorial Opera House, the company's stately Beaux Arts home in the city's civic centre.

The damage that a year's hiatus would have wreaked upon the opera, both artistically and financially, would have been even more disastrous than the quake. Rather, general director Lotfi Mansouri determined to reinvent the company. So the San Francisco Opera is presenting an extended season of nine operas, seven of them new productions, in venues that were never intended for the medium — a lesson, perhaps, for London's soon-to-be-homeless Royal Opera.

Most of the performances will take place in the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium two blocks away. A cavernous amphitheatre commonly used for car shows and rock concerts, it has neither stage nor orchestra pit. A 130ft thrust stage was built at one end of the arena, and temporary seating installed in front of it. The orchestra was placed in a loft about 20 feet above the stage. The result is visually bizarre — the orchestra appears to hover in a spaceship — and acoustically far from ideal.



Lohengrin at the Civic Auditorium

The opening production, *Prince Igor*, attempted to make a virtue of necessity by emphasising the colossal dimensions of the hall. Francesca Zambello's stirring staging deployed huge forces to keep the spectacle sprawling across the huge stage. The Polovtsian dances were performed with breathtaking bravura by two Georgian émigrés, Badri Esatia and Teimuraz Koridze, assisted by some 200 choristers. The cast of soloists was excellent, with Sergei Leiferkus in the name part, Lauren Flannigan as Yaroslavna, and debutant Paata Burchuladze as the Khan Konchak; Elena Zaremba was impressive as Konchakovna.

However, it was not always possible to find the soloist in the assembled masses on the stage, and the hall sucked up the sound like a great acoustic sponge. The orchestra bashed away cheerfully under the firm and none too subtle conducting of Alexander Anissimov. Still, this was spectacle of a high order, executed with precision and style.

The Barnum-esque virtues of *Prince Igor* were made apparent by the second production at the auditorium, a lacklustre *Lohengrin* staged by Laurie Feldman. The production's nearest approach to medieval pageantry came in the form of a handful of armoured extras waving white pennants.

It was an exceptionally strong cast, with Ben Heppner in the name part and Karita Mattila giving a lovely, passionate performance in her first Elsa, but one was more conscious than ever of the hall's acoustic unsuitability.

Jan-Hendrik Rootering and Tom Fox were unfocused and unimpressive as King Heinrich and Telramund respectively, though it is hard to know whether the fault was the singers' or attributable to the sound system. Elizabeth Connell's somewhat harsh voice and broad acting were perhaps better suited to the occasion, and made her Ortrud a malevolent force to be reckoned with. The orchestra was conducted with elegance and assurance by the company's music director, Donald Runnicles.

The most successful evening thus far in this season in the wilderness was a modest, well-conceived production of *Hamlet*, performed at the much smaller Orpheum Theatre, a lavish neo-Gothic vaudeville house on Market Street. Colin Graham's production was lively enough, and Gerard Howland's set designs were generic "once upon a time in Europe".

The singing was generally excellent, with Ruth Ann Swenson particularly satisfying as Ophelie: shining gold tone and flawless technique made a delicious treat of the mad scene. Thomas Hampson attacked the title role with ferocious energy, and the talented young French conductor Yves Abel led the orchestra.

CONCERTS: A sixtieth anniversary for Manchester Chamber Concerts Society; Vernon Handley to the rescue

Happy birthday treats

THE extraordinary thing about the Manchester Chamber Concerts Society is not so much that it has survived for 60 years as that, during all those decades, it has been almost alone in providing high-quality chamber music in this musical city. There was a time when the Royal Northern College of Music had the funds to promote its own international chamber concerts, though on an irregular and erratic basis, and the Music Department of Manchester University has long had a valuable association with the Lindsays. But, in its commitment to presenting seasons featuring the best ensembles, the MCCS has had no rival.

Fortunately, for the sake of full-scale 60th birthday self-indulgence, the Nash Ensemble was available for the opening concert of the new season in the concert hall of the RNCM. It is true that, after a recent change in personnel, the Nash is not entirely recognisable as the ensemble it was. The string quartet element, which was at the heart of the texture of the two major works in the programme, needs to be re-integrated and more decisively led. Conversely, with musicians such as the clarinettist Michael Collins and the pianist Ian Brown in the most prominent roles, there could be no lack of style or authority in either Mozart's Clarinet Quintet or Dvořák's Piano Quintet. And Prokofiev's *Overture on Jewish Themes*, which has its own wittily exotic way of treating the string quartet in relation to both clarinet and piano, was delightful.

A special item in the performance of the Mozart quintet was the presence of the bass clarinet, which allows the score to be restored to what is believed to be its original form.

GERALD LARNER

Walton at his liveliest

WITH Andrew Davis out of action for several weeks, the BBC Symphony Orchestra was already indebted to Vernon Handley for taking over two concerts in its Walton series. Wednesday night's Festival Hall concert, with its taxing programme of Walton's Symphony No 1, Tippett's Piano Concerto and a work by Judith Weir, might never have happened after a road accident involving Handley that morning. But, true professional that he is, he went on with the show.

The Walton was as lively and incisive a performance as one could wish to hear. A high-octane account of the first movement emphasised its underlying tensions, highlighting the accents and revelling in the biting dissonances, with the result that the triumphal major-tonality coda emerged as a hard-won victory. There was no let-up in the energy generated in the scherzo, all the more effective for the orchestra's precise ensemble.

The slow movement was mellow rather than tragic but the force of Walton's characteristic dissonances rose to considerable heights.

Judith Weir's *Moon and Star* — the title refers to an Emily Dickinson poem — was first heard at last year's Proms. It was good to hear this attractive work again and the BBC Singers managed to suggest both a sense of galactic perspective and the wry humour that the composer finds in the poet's work.

A large part of the score proceeds in phrases of two or three bars but it is a tribute to the sweep of inspiration that the interest never flags.

Something of that sonority was recalled in the Tippett concerto, with its prominent part for celesta (played by Elizabeth Burley). Classical lightness and lyricism are central to the work, though there are also big-boned Romantic gestures, to which Peter Donohoe did full justice.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Women behaving perfectly

RADIO

THE BBC is holding anniversary parties all over the airwaves to celebrate the rebirth of peacetime broadcasting in 1946. I try to avoid the predictable path of commenting on these landmarks, but I cannot ignore the 50th birthday of **Woman's Hour** (Radio 4).

If the BBC had taken any notice of me, *Woman's Hour* would have died, aged 49. Last year I advocated that, although the issues in the programme certainly ought to be aired, the era of a single programme aimed at women had passed. A senior BBC executive told me at the time: "We'll get rid of it if you'll come to Broadcasting House and announce it. But wear a bullet-proof vest."

What this meant was that the *Woman's Hour* editors, Sally Feldman and Clare Selerie, and its presenter, Jenni Murray, are not to be trifled with. It was hard enough to get the programme shifted from afternoon to morning five years ago.

But on this occasion I come to praise *Woman's Hour*, not to bury it. I am mystified by some of the criticism levelled at the programme, particularly the argument that it pursues a "feminist agenda".

On Monday, anniversary day, the programme assembled several well-known women, also aged 50, to take part in a quiz. This was an informative quiz, and its most informative aspect was that it proved *Woman's Hour* has always pursued a feminist agenda (in the broadest sense), since long before Germaine Greer swept over the horizon.

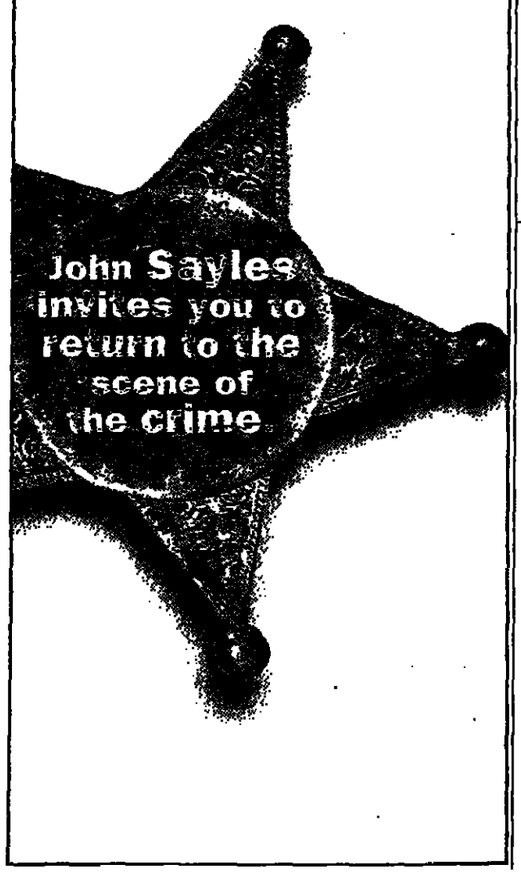
The reason for pursuing this agenda is that somebody had to and nobody else would. The notion that the programme discovered certain women's issues in the Sixties is nonsense. In the late Forties and early Fifties it featured domestic violence, equal pay, the plight of the divorcée and the menopause.

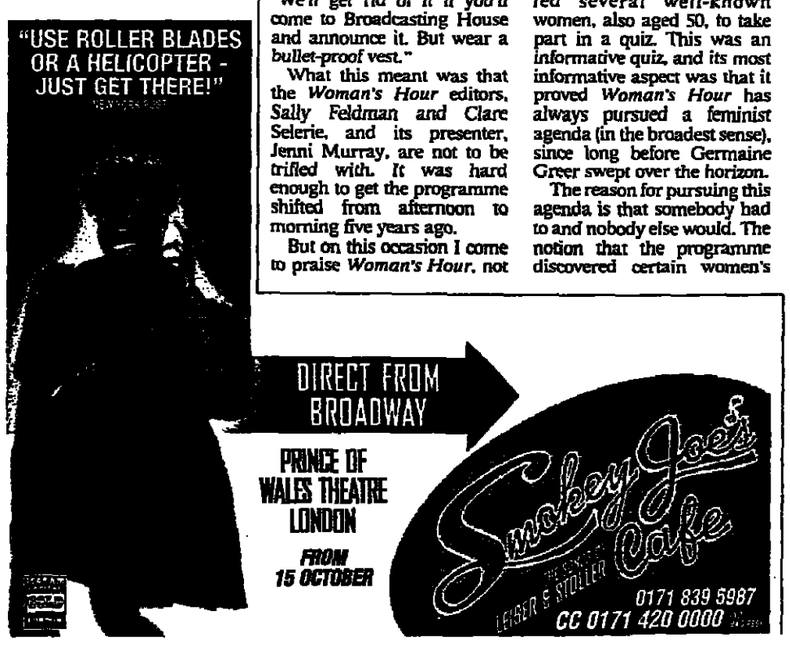
And no wonder. Edwina Currie recalled in Monday's programme how as a young woman she needed her father's signature in order to open a bank account. This was still true in the Seventies. In the same decade, a single woman whose father happened to have died could not get a mortgage at all.

The core criticism of those who oppose the *Woman's Hour* agenda concerns the fact that it is little concerned with "housewives". But neither my wife, who chooses not to have a paid job at present, nor several other women in the same position have told me they wish *Woman's Hour* was about bringing up babies: they would consider that an insult.

I still think *Woman's Hour* has the wrong name, but there is nothing wrong with the content unless you are predisposed to compartmentalise women, and therefore men. Which reminds me that I missed the last 20 minutes of Monday's show: I had to vacuum the house before my wife returned from her aromatherapy massage.

PETER BARNARD







RACING: KINANE INFLUENTIAL IN IRISH CHALLENGER'S ATTEMPT TO EMULATE VINTAGE CROP

Oscar Schindler aims for Melbourne

By Richard Evans, *Racing Correspondent*

A TELEPHONE conversation with Michael Kinane persuaded Oliver Lehane yesterday to try to emulate the historic feat of Vintage Crop and win the Fosters Melbourne Cup next month with Oscar Schindler, the Arc third.

Kinane, who rode Vintage Crop to victory at Flemington three years ago, told the owner that if Oscar Schindler ran within 7lb of his form when an unlucky third behind Helissio at Longchamp on Sunday, he would win Australia's famous two-mile handicap. However, he would have to improve by 7lb to win the Breeders' Cup Turf at Woodbine.

Although Lehane retains *doubts about the wisdom of* the long trip, the advice of Kinane proved the deciding factor and he has been booked to ride in Melbourne on November 5 — the first Tuesday of the month when Australia traditionally comes to a halt for the Cup.

"I am delighted Mick is *riding him. If we can manage* to get Oscar Schindler there in one piece, we must have a good chance. He's fantastically consistent, and is genuine as the day is long. He stays well and seems to have a touch of class," Lehane said.

Kinane said yesterday: "I think the horse is well suited to the race. If he travels well and holds his form, he has got a right chance." He added: "When the weights came out, I thought he was well weighted judged on his mid-season form. This autumn, he seems to have improved, which would make him very attractively weighted."

Oscar Schindler, whom *Kinane partnered to victory in* the group three Ormonde Stakes at Chester and the

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ABEYR
(3.05 Ascot)
Next best: Dance So Suite
(5.20 Ascot)

Richard Evans landed a 16-1 double at York yesterday with his nap, Love Has No Pride (7-1), and Multicoloured (evens)

group two Hardwicke Stakes at Royal Ascot, is almost certainly a better horse than Vintage Crop, judged on his victory in a fast-run Irish St Leger and his effort at Longchamp. Yet he will be required to carry only 8st 13lb *in the Melbourne Cup — just* 3lb more than the Dermot Weld-trained winner.

However, the form book and an attractive weight will be meaningless if Lehane's giant of a horse fails to cope with the demands of being flown round the world and stabled *in a different climate.* While Vintage Crop was a six-year-old gelding when he triumphed, this Irish challenger is a four-year-old entire.

As Kinane pointed out, only one horse has managed to overcome all the difficulites. Others, like Quick Ransom *and Double Trigger, have* been found wanting. Nevertheless, British bookmakers are taking no chances and the "Big Three" each have Oscar Schindler at 5-1.

With Grey Shot, owned by Jeff Smith and trained by Ian Balding, due to be ridden in the Cup by Frankie Dettori, there will be similarities with the Vintage Crop success when Dettori partnered the *Lord Huntingdon-trained* Drum Taps. Indeed, the presence of the front-running grey should benefit the Irish challenger. A good pace will not only expose the stamina limitations of many of the Australian runners, but should suit Oscar Schindler, who possesses a good cruising speed.

Lehane estimated yesterday the trip will cost him around £60,000. If his horse wins, his share of the prize-money will be around £450,000. Classic Cliche, who has top weight in the Cup, is unlikely to run.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Verzen, left, fends off Celestial Key in the Allied Dunbar Stakes at York yesterday

Abeyr has terms in her favour

ASCOT
BBC2

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.30: Bintang Timor is a speculative choice against six other newcomers. Paul Cole has a one in four strike rate with his juveniles this term and the $180,000 purchase has shown enough on the Whatcombe gallops to suggest he can take a hand *here. Labeq is entered for the* Racing Post Trophy and must have shown Peter Walwyn something at home, while Dances With Dreams represents Peter Chapple-Hyam.

3.05: Fatefully, part of Frankie Dettori's magnificent seven, is improving and will have her supporters but could help to make **Abeyr** a value bet. The Michael Jarvis-trained filly beat the highly-touted Dawna on her debut in April before seeing off Lucayan Prince, the subsequent Jersey Stakes winner at Royal Ascot.

After a two-month break, she ran respectably at Sandown and Goodwood before recording her best effort behind Fatefully here 13 days ago. She reopposes on 8lb better terms for a neck and can oblige. Red Carnival would be an obvious danger if returning to her best, but she has not won since her two-year-old days.

3.40: A strict interpretation of Manikato's form in the Houghton Sales Stakes, when sent off a 100-1 shot, gives him a chance but the conditions race may have flattered David Cosgrove's maiden. Oneknight With You is another runner still seeking a first win whose overall form gives her a chance.

Merciless Cop had the advantage of a stands' rail draw when making all at Lingfield a week ago, and I prefer the chance of **Blue Goblin.** The Luca Cumani-trained colt has recorded placed efforts in decent maidens and can oblige for Dettori from his advantageous draw.

RICHARD EVANS

ASCOT

THUNDERER

2.00 Namoodaj
2.30 Bintang Timor
3.05 Tereshkova
3.40 Orontes
4.15 Pike Creek
4.45 **KINGS WITNESS** (nap)
5.20 Fasil

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.40 **SILCA'S MY KEY.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Namoodaj. 3.05 **TURNING WHEEL** (nap). 3.40 Blue Goblin.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: 6F-1M STR, LOW NUMBERS BEST — SIS

2.00 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE CHALLENGE SERIES FINAL HANDICAP
(Gentleman amateurs: £4,397: 1m 4f) (16 runners)

101	(4)	1461-45	ROUFONTAINE 15 (D,F,S,5) (Percefield Stables) W Muir 5-12-0..	T McCarthy	96
102	(1)	3-00112	NEWPORT KNIGHT 59 (F,S) (J T Mcinhead) R Akehurst 5-11-8 ..	R Thornton	91
103	(8)	616451	ARTIC BAY 7 (D,F,S) (Mrs N Duffield) Mrs P Duffield 4-11-3 (5ex)	L Jefford (4)	89
104	(16)	0031	NAMOODAJ 13 (G) (A Al Maktoum) A Stewart 3-11-2	V Lukaniok (4)	97
105	(7)	041005	COUNTRY LOVER 80 (V,F,S,5) (G Brereton) Lord Huntingdon 5-11-2	A Balding	89
106	(13)	048407	MONTONE 9 (V,F,G,S) (J Shirazi) J Jenkins 8-11-1 (5ex)	M Monteith	94
107	(12)	1-03335	RED PHANTOM 105 (D,S) (Mrs B Stewart) S Mellor 4-10-13	P Scott	91
108	(9)	0/5101-0	BAJAN 41 (F,S) (T Sinclair) Lady Herries 5-10-12	P Pritchard-Gordon	89
109	(2)	044206	FAIRY KNIGHT 22 (F) (P & S Lever) R Hannon 4-10-12	C Bonner	98
110	(10)	023414	REX MUNDI 14 (F) (J Libby) P Evans 4-10-10	M Rimell	91
111	(11)	50-0060	WARM SPELL 34 (D,G,S) (A Higson) G L Moore 6-10-9	K Gibbs	90
112	(6)	60320/0-	HARDING 1741 (S Tindall) S Mellor 5-10-7	J Reas	–
113	(15)	40-0000	PERSIAN CONQUEST 48 (B,D,G) (C Adams) R Ingram 4-9-13.	K Sanlara (4)	–
114	(14)	630/05/	DESERT CHALLENGER 21J (Andrews Freight) J Jenkins 6-9-7	R Wakley	–
115	(3)	000004	*SAM ROCKETT 9 (Miss M Campbell) C Horgan 3-9-7*	J Crowley (4)	89
116	(5)	66-6400	GOLDEN HADEER 60 (D,S) (Four Jays Racing) M Ryan 5-9-7	S Lavallin (4)	75

Long handicap: Sam Rocket 9-5, Golden Hadeer 8-13.

BETTING: 9-2 Namoodaj, 5-1 Newport Knight, 6-1 Artic Bay, 8-1 Country Lover, Rex Mundi, 10-1 Fairy Knight, *12-1 Montone, 14-1 others*

1995: CHIEF BEE 4-11-10 J Durkan (7-1) J Dunlop 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROUFONTAINE best recent effort beat Kaafih Homm 2½l in 16-runner race at Sandown (1m 2f, good) with BAJAN (12lb better off) 14½l 12th to Newport Knight short-head 2nd of 8 to Pistol Bandcap at Bath (*1m 3f 144yds, good*). ARTIC BAY beat Rosin Clover 2½l in 14-runner race at Lingfield (1m 3f 105yds, good). NAMOODAJ beat Ibsales 1¾l in 9-runner handicap at Haydock (1m 2f 120yds, good). MONTONE beat *Chalky Dancer 1¾l in 11-runner handicap at* Newcastle (1m, good to firm). FAIRY KNIGHT about 2½l 6th of 15 to White Plains in handicap at Lingfield (1m 2f, firm) REX MUNDI about 11 4th of 15 to Haya 'n Ketash in handicap at Haydock (1m *4f, good).* SAM ROCKETT 10½l 4th of 20 to Nothing Doing in handicap at Salisbury (1m 6f, good to soft) GOLDEN HADEER best recent effort 3l 4th to 19 to Augustar in handicap at Chepstow (1m 4f, good to firm).
Selection: FAIRY KNIGHT

2.30 TRIPLEPRINT MAIDEN STAKES
BBC2
(2-Y-O: £6,938: 6f) (7 runners)

201	(4)		BINTANG TIMOR (A Shah) P Cole 9-0 — T Quinn —
202	(1)		LABEQ (H Al Maktoum) P Walwyn 9-0 — M J Kinane —
203	(5)		MUSHARAK (H Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 9-0 — R Hills —
204	(6)		NARISKIN (Sultan Al Kalseri) J Dunlop 9-0 — L Dettori —
205	(2)		PRAEDITUS (B Kilpatrick) R Hannon 9-0 — Pat Eddery —
206	(7)		BLUSHING DESERT (M Suhail) R Hannon 8-9 — Dane O'Neill —
207	(3)		DANCES WITH DREAMS (A Gillespie) P Chapple-Hyam 8-9 — J Reid —

BETTING: 3-1 Bintang Timor, 7-2 Dances With Dreams, 4-1 Labeq, 5-1 Nariskin, 6-1 Musharak, 7-1 Blushing Desert, 8-1 Praeditus

1995: MIDNIGHT BLUE 8-9 J Reid (16-1) W Jarvis 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

BINTANG TIMOR (lozzled Feb 1, cost $150,000) By Mt Livermore, half-brother to two minor winners *in America, dam minor winner in America* LABEQ (Feb 25) By Lycaus, first foal dam 7f *winner MUSHARAK (Jan 19) By Mayfalad, first* foal dam fairly useful 7f-1m winner NARISKIN (Apr 23). By Danehill, first foal; dam half-sister to useful French 5f juvenile L'Orangerie, *ran twice in France.* BLUSHING DESERT (Feb 16). By Green Desert, first foal , dam useful middle distance maiden DANCES WITH DREAMS (Mar 29) By Be My Chief, half-sister to a maiden, dam daughter of Soba.
Selection: BINTANG TIMOR

3.05 BONUSPRINT OCTOBER STAKES
BBC2
(Listed race: fillies: £17,750: 1m rnd) (12 runners)

301	(9)	121140	TERESHKOVA 104 (D,F,6,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-0	M J Kinane	95
302	(2)	261211	FATEFULLY 13 (CD,F) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 3-8-11	L Dettori	92
303	(7)	355020	*NAGNAGNAG 6 (F,6,S) (C Fraud) S Dow 4-8-11*	R Hughes	82
304	(1)	11/323-4	RED CARNIVAL 20 (F,S) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 4-8-11	T Quinn	97
305	(5)	11542	ABEYR 13 (D,F,S) (A Al Maktoum) M Jarvis 3-8-8	R Cochrane	89
306	(6)	31-10	AWAAMIR 41 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) J Gosden 3-8-8	M Hills	87
307	(11)	3-01	DAWAWIN 17 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 3-8-8	R Hills	70
308	(4)	25-2000	PARROT JUNGLE 58 (F) (Sultan Al Kalseri) J Dunlop 3-8-8	T Sprake	90
309	(12)	25-3353	PRANCING 13 (F) (Cheveley Park Stud) D Loder 3-8-8	K Darley	91
310	(8)	13650	SATIN BELL 13 (S) (M Jones) J Dunlop 3-8-8	J Reid	83
311	(3)	11-6400	SCARLET PLUME 46 (D,S) (Aylesfield Farms) J Dunlop 3-8-8	M Roberts	86
312	(10)	21	*TURNING WHEEL 53 (F) (Niarchos Family) H Cecil 3-8-8*	Pat Eddery	84

BETTING: 3-1 Turning Wheel, 7-2 Abeyr, Fatefully, 5-1 Red Carnival, 9-1 Prancing, 12-1 others.

1995: A LA CARTE 3-8-7 T Quinn (5-1) J Dunlop 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

FATEFULLY beat ABEYR (8lb better off) neck in handicap at own course and distance (good to firm) with PRANCING (3lb better off) 1¼l 3rd. *NAGNAGNAG 11 2nd of 10 to Star Of Zibal in* handicap at Epsom (1m 114yds, good to firm) on penultimate start. RED CARNIVAL about 4l 4th of 7 to Phantom Quest at Newbury (1m 1f, good to firm), PRANCING 5¼l 5th of 14 to Thrilling Day in listed race at Goodwood (7f, good to firm). TURNING WHEEL beat *Multicoloured 5l in 15-runner* maiden at Windsor (1m 3f, good to firm)
Selection: RED CARNIVAL

3.40 BUCKHOUND NURSERY HANDICAP
BBC2
(2-Y-O: £8,754: 7f) (14 runners)

401	(2)	232	BLUE GOBLIN 29 (BF) (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani 9-7	L Dettori	88
402	(13)	02223	*TEST THE WATER 22 (BF) (J Threlkeld) R Hannon 9-2*	Pat Eddery	87
403	(7)	316	ORONTES 42 (D,G) (J Lazzar) R Hannon 9-2	Dane O'Neill	88
404	(1)	21610	FAREWELL MY LOVE 30 (G) (W Ponsonby) P Cole 8-13	T Quinn	87
405	(12)	51006	PAPITA 16 (F) (G Stelzberg) S Dow 8-12	M Roberts	93
406	(10)	033042	GRATE TIMES 16 (D,S) (Mrs M Ashby) E Weymes 8-12	K Darley	89
407	(6)	510425	I CAN'T REMEMBER 3 (D,F,S) (P Graham) P Evans 8-10	J F Egan	93
408	(9)	403543	ONEKNIGHT WITH YOU 30 (S) (D Clee) M Fetherston-Godley 8-8	F Lynch (3)	87
409	(14)	531222	TINKERBELL 10 (D,G) (Sun Punters Club) W Muir 8-5	J Reid	94
410	(8)	485001	TRADING ACES 14 (G) (R Michaelson) M Bell 8-0	R Mullen (7)	88
411	(3)	044240	MANIKATO 10 (V) (Edenvale Bloodstock) D Cosgrove 7-13	C Rutter	98
412	(4)	255501	SILCA'S MY KEY 16 (V,D,F) (Aldridge Racing) M Channon 7-12	P P Murphy (5)	89
413	(5)	300541	MERCILESS COP 7 (B,D,G) (M Lanfranchi) B Meehan 7-10 (5ex)	J Quinn	98
414	(11)	160	SPARKLING EDGE 23 (F) (S Ross) C Dwyer 7-10	Jo Hannam (7)	88

BETTING: 9-2 Oneknight With You, 5-1 Merciless Cop, 6-1 Tinkerbell, 8-1 Blue Goblin, 10-1 Orontes, 12-1 others.

1995: PRENDS CA 9-3 Pat Eddery (12-1) R Hannon 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BLUE GOBLIN ½l 2nd to Royal Amaretto at Chepstow (7f, firm), I CAN'T REMEMBER 1¾l 2nd to Southerly Wind in handicap at Pontefract (1m, firm). ONEKNIGHT WITH YOU neck 3rd of 22 to Nightbird at Doncaster (6½f, good). TINKERBELL ½l 2nd to Nightbird at Newmarket (7f, good) TRADING ACES beat Dayville 1¾l at Haydock (6f, good). SILCA'S MY KEY beat Marsh Marigold head in seller at Goodwood (7f, good to firm).
Selection: BLUE GOBLIN

4.15 WYNDHAM HANDICAP
(£9,526: 2m 45yd) (16 runners)

501	(9)	14123/0	MUSE 145 (F,S) (White Horse Racing) D Elsworth 9-10-0	D Griffiths (5)	–
502	(15)	12-6630	HARBOUR ISLAND 27 (B,S) (A Barnett) M Stoute 4-9-12	L Dettori	85
503	(3)	5212/20	FLOCHECK 13 (S) (Stonethorn Stud) J Dunlop 3-9-6	M J Kinane	85
504	(5)	0000036	BOB'S PLOY 16 (F) (Mrs M Barnett) M Tompkins 4-9-6	R Cochrane	90
505	(7)	0004000	BENFLEET 37 (G,S) (C Donovan) R Armstrong 5-9-3	R Price	90
506	(4)	4-23412	NORTHERN FLEET 13 (D,G) (K Abdulla) R Harwood 3-9-3	Pat Eddery	96
507	(14)	/0100/0	HIGH SUMMER 20 (D,F,G) (D Wilson) T Thomson Jones 5-9-1	D Biggs	–
508	(10)	0-02004	MR BROWNING 14 (BF,F) (Mrs M O'Shea) R Akehurst 5-9-1	T Quinn	95
509	(11)	4-1040	PIKE CREEK 13 (F) (G Stewardship) I Balding 3-9-1	K Darley	98
510	(13)	340404	SHARAF 7 (F) (D Deer) W Muir 3-9-0	J Reid	92
511	(12)	124400	EAGLE CANYON 14 (F,G) (C Lee) B Hanbury 3-9-0	W Ryan	94
512	(1)	5232/64	SEA FREEDOM 11 (V) (Mrs B Swire) G Balding 5-8-6	G Hind	89
513	(8)	3-80043	RAFFLES ROOSTER 98 (M Leatham) A Newcombe 4-8-5	S Drowne	93
514	(16)	5/11213	IZZA 16 (D,F,S) (D Batey) W Storey 5-8-3	N Kennedy	96
515	(6)	04833/0	MULL HOUSE 71 (D,F,G) (B Beagley) G Enright 9-8-1	M Adams	–
516	(2)	340-004	DURSHAN 47 (F,G) (Sudamara Turnbull) J Jenkins 7-7-10	Declan O'Shea	84

BETTING: 9-2 Northern Fleet, 7-1 Harbour Island Izza, Flocheck, 12-1 Pike Creek, 14-1 others

1995: MEANT TO BE 5-9-1 J Reid (10-1) Lady Herries 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

NORTHERN FLEET neck 2nd of 18 to Fullyarna Crest in handicap over course and distance (good to firm) PIKE CREEK 4½l 4th of 13 to Spitfire in handicap at Doncaster (1m 4f, good to firm) on penultimate start. RAFFLES ROOSTER ¼l 3rd of 7 to Welsh Mill in handicap at Haydock (1m 6f, good) IZZA 2¾l 3rd to Beaumont in 15-runner handicap at Chester (2m, good to firm)
Selection: NORTHERN FLEET

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — left, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard, G — good, S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer, Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.45 MAYFLOWER APPRENTICES CONDITIONS STAKES
(£4,187: 1m str) (14 runners)

601	(14)	01	RIVERS MAGIC 99 (S) (R Mead) D Chappell 3-9-1	Almee Cook (3)	72
602	(10)	322223	*RUSSIAN MUSIC 13 (F) (Seventh Heaven) Miss E Kellaway 3-9-1*	D Biffhire	88
603	(13)	030210	VAN GURP 28 (D,G) (Barouche Stud) B McMahon 3-9-1	L Newton	78
604	(8)	0006	BABA AU RHUM 9 (J Poynton) I Williams 4-8-12	R Prasch (5)	–
605	(1)		FRUIT TOWN 829J (Mrs V Parry) P Butler 7-8-12	C Adamson	–
606	(11)	323230	PRINCE BABAR 13 (G) (G Pritchard-Gordon) J Banks 5-8-12	R Mullen (3)	88
607	(7)	060000	SALTANDO 25 (D,G) (Mrs S Hemdge) Pat Mitchell 5-8-12	Amanda Sanders	50
608	(9)	340-000	SHOW FAITH 6 (CD,G,S) (J Wight) R Hannon 6-8-12	M Baird	75
609	(2)	00-0	WESTERN COUNTRY 17 (B Azimoudah) E Wheeler 4-8-12	J Wilkinson (5)	–
610	(4)	P00	ENDAQI SAM 60 (S Fletcher) R Ingram 3-8-9	D Sweeney (3)	–
611	(6)	315-456	KINGS WITNESS 83 (G) (Highclere Racing) W Haggas 3-8-9	G Faulkner (3)	97
612	(3)	460326	MARL 13 (G) (E Parker) R Akehurst 3-8-4	Martin Dwyer	95
613	(12)	010550	MIMOSA 34 (D,F) (G Stamberg) S Dow 3-8-4	A Daly	54
614	(5)	0-0000	PERSIAN DAWN 18 (ROM Racing) D Chappell 3-8-4	Iona Wands (3)	–

BETTING: 7-2 Kings Witness, 4-1 Prince Babar, 9-2 Russian Music, 5-1 Marl, 6-1 Van Gurp, 10-1 Show Faith, 12-1 Rivers Magic, 14-1 others.

1995: KING OF TUNES 3-8-7 P P Murphy (33-1) J Sheehan 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

RIVERS MAGIC beat Saleemah 1l in 13-runner maiden at Haydock (7f, good to soft) RUSSIAN MUSIC 4l 3rd of 26 to Decorated Hero in handicap here (7f, good to firm) with PRINCE BABAR (3lb worse off) 6l 10th VAN GURP beat Mount Pleasant 2l in maiden at York (1m, good) on penultimate start. PRINCE BABAR 1½l and neck 3rd of 28 to Coastal Bluff in handicap at Ayr (6l, good to firm) on penultimate start.
KINGS WITNESS best effort 5l 4th of 8 to Masetta in race at Windsor (1m 3f, good to firm). MARL 6l 6th of 18 to Fatefully in listed handicap over course and distance (good to firm).
Selection: RUSSIAN MUSIC

5.20 TANKERVILLE HANDICAP
(£7,653: 1m 4f) (15 runners)

1	(14)	110634	DANCE SO SUITE 12 (D,F,G,S) (J Gutkin) P Cole 4-9-13	T Quinn	98
2	(6)	142332	ARTIC COURIER 20 (D,F) (Bridam Promotions) D Cosgrove 5-9-9	M Rimmer	94
3	(10)	5011-10	RIVER KEEN 188 (C,D,F,G) (M Yeh) R Armstrong 4-9-8	M Hills	89
4	(5)	210-420	POLYDAMAS 12 (F) (A Christodoulou) M Stoute 4-9-8	J Reid	91
5	(8)	1-00254	*BEYOND DOUBT 10 (D,F,G) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-8*	D Harrison	94
6	(12)	1600-10	BIT ON THE SIDE 141 (D,G,S) (M Hawkett) N Berry 7-9-6	P McCabe (3)	91
7	(15)	023060	MY LEARNED FRIEND 12 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Roberts) A Hide 5-9-5	Martin Dwyer (5)	98
8	(9)	12-8550	MORE THAN YOU KNOW 118 (F) (B Lallemand) R Hannon 3-9-4	Dane O'Neill	89
9	(4)	036161	FASIL 18 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) C Benstead 3-9-3	R Hills	97
10	(2)	630-000	SHADOW LEADER 14 (D,S) (J Blackshaw) C Egerton 5-9-0	R Hughes	84
11	(1)	1-6	SUBTERFUGE 34 (G) (Lord Howard de Walden) H Cecil 3-8-13	W Ryan	94
12	(3)	005000	OTTO E MEZZO 14 (F,S) (J Cook) M Polglase 4-8-11	K Darley	95
13	(7)	01U204	EDAN HEIGHTS 20 (D,S) (T Mountain) S Dow 4-8-11	A Daly (5)	97
14	(13)	0-515	LIEFLING 52 (CD,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 3-8-10	L Dettori	92
15	(11)	30-5100	REBMEI 13 (D,F,G) (I Goldsmith) R Akehurst 7-8-8	S Sanders	95

BETTING: 5-1 Fasil, 11-2 Liefling, 6-1 Dance So Suite, 8-1 Artic Courier, 10-1 Beyond Doubt, 11-1 Subterfuge, 12-1 Rebmei, 14-1 others.

1995: INDIGO TIME 3-9-0 T Quinn (10-1) P Cole 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

DANCE SO SUITE 2¾l 4th of 20 to Better Offer in handicap over course and distance (good). ARTIC COURIER ½l 2nd of 9 to Tessaqua in handicap at Catterick (1m 4f, good to firm). RIVER KEEN beat Northern Union head in handicap at Wolverhampton (A/W, 1m 4f)
BEYOND DOUBT best recent effort ½l 2nd of 12 to Better Offer in handicap over course and distance (good to firm) FASIL beat Snow Falcon 2l in 10-runner handicap at Goodwood (1m 4f, good to firm) SUBTERFUGE best effort beat Rash Gift head in 4-runner maiden at Newmarket (7f, good). EDAN HEIGHTS best recent effort neck 2nd to Argus-G in 12-runner handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm)
Selection: RIVER KEEN (nap)

☐ **Decorated Hero, ridden by Thierry Jarnet, continued the fine run of his trainer, John Gosden, when wining the listed *Prix Eugene de Savoie* comfortably at Longchamp yesterday.**

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

York
Going: good

2.00 (6f 214yd) 1. GREAT OVATION (L Dettori, 2-1); 2. Solero Boy (Pat Eddery, 13-8 fav); 3. Beryllium (R Hughes, 6-1) ALSO RAN: 11-2 Mayfair (4th), 9 Foot Battalion (5th), 50 Sodeik (6th). 6 ran. 1¼l, nk, 5l, 1½l. 10l. L Cumani at Newmarket. Tote: £2.50; £1.50, £1.60. DF: £1.80 CSF £5.57

2.30 (1m 2f 85yd) 1. MULTICOLOURED (J Reid, Evens fav; Private Handicapper's top rated' and Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2. Grand Splendour (K Fallon, 10-1), 3. Enriched (L Dettori, 3-1) ALSO RAN: 15-2 Pep Talk (4th), 10 Sulut, 16 Tundrev (5th), 20 Questing Star, Turnil, 25 Bonanza Peak (6th), 33 Sacred Loch. 10 ran. 2½l, nk, 6l, 1l, 1½l M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £2.00; £1.30, £1.90, £1.40. DF: £8.00 Tno: £8.40 CSF £12.97.

3.00 (6f 214yd) 1. VERZEN (D R McCabe, 4-1); 2. Celestial Key (J Weaver, 9-1); 3. Primo Lara (G Hind, 14-1) ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Aerleon Jane (4th), 9-2 Highborn (5th), Star of Zibal, 8 Welton Arsenal (6th) 7 ran. ½l, 3l, 1l, 1½l, 4l. D Loder at Newmarket. Tote: £5.40; £3.00, £3.50. DF: £26.80 CSF £34.27

3.30 (1m 2f 85yd) 1. HAZARD A GUESS (Alex Greaves, 3-1 fav), 2. Quiet Arch (G Carter, 6-1), 3. Leaf The Lucky (Martin Dwyer, 5-1) ALSO RAN: 4 Tan Pest Sx, 5 Czarna, 12 Northern Fan, Witheshay (4th), 14 Samum (5th) 33 Nobby Barnes (6th), Realms Of Glory, 50 Brownie's Promise 11 ran. Sh hd, 4l, 3l, 1l, 3½l. D Nicholls at Thirsk. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £2.00, £1.80. DF: £9.50 Tno: £24.10. CSF: £21.13

4.00 (7f 202yd) 1. LOVE HAS NO PRIDE (Dane O'Neill, 7-1; Richard Evans's nap), 2. Gipsy Princess (L Charnock, 14-1), 3. Sandbaggedagain (J Carroll, 13-2 fav), 4. Princess Topaz (J Quinn, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Shimazu, 15-2 Mr Bombastique (5th), 9 General's Star, 10 Marack, 12 Fletcher, Northern Sun, Smuguns, 14 Auchon Hall (6th), Indifferent Guy, 20 Imperial Or Metric, 25 Floating Devon, Hurgill Dancer, 33 Highway Robber. 17 ran. 4l, nk, 1¼l, 2½l, 1¼l. R Hannon at East Everleigh. Tote: £7.90; £2.00, £5.10, £1.40, £2.20. DF: £137.40. Trio: £135.70. CSF: £104.23. Tricast: £660.79.

4.30 (1m 3f 195yd) 1. VOILA PREMIERE (R Mullen, 11-2 jt-fav), 2. Dreams End (R Cody-Boutcher, 20-1), 3. Karisma (A Daly, 20-1), 4. Mad Militant (D Denby, 20-1) ALSO RAN: 11-2 jt-fav Glow Forum (5th), 7 Kristal Breeze, 8 Ashover (6th), 12 Double Echo, 61 Bardador, 14 Dauphin, Gold Desire, Triby, 16 Amadeus, Rang ol Vixon, Rock The Barney, Voices In The Sky, 20 Clareswan (f), Hasta La Vista, Kalou, Master Hyde (bd), 25 Home Counties. 33 Clare's Dancer. 22 ran. ¾l, 6l, 2½l, hd, nk. M Tompkins at Newmarket. Tote: £6.40; £1.90, £4.10, £6.80. £4.90. DF: £41.40. Tno: £532.50. CSF: £120.80. Tricast: £2,009.80.

Jackpot: £7,178.90.

Placepot: £61.40. Quadpot: £27.60.

SPECIALISTS

ASCOT: TRAINERS: S bin Suroor, 9 winners from 35 runners, 25.7%; Lady Herries, 8 from 42, 19.0%; J Dunlop, 26 from 143, 18.2%. A Stewart, 5 from 28, 17.9%; J Gosden, 23 from 135, 17.0%; R Akehurst, 14 from 83, 16.9%

JOCKEYS: M J Kinane, 25 winners from 144 rides, 17.4%, L Dettori, 35 from 232, 15.1%, T Quinn, 27 from 199, 13.6%, Pat Eddery, 35 from 262, 13.4%; W Ryan, 6 from 47, 12.8%

Ludlow
Going: firm

2.20 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1. King Of Babylon (L Aspell, 9-4 fav), 2. Lac De Gras, (8-1), 3. They All Forgot Me (5-1) 6 ran. 3½l, 2½l. F Jordan. Tote: £2.90; £1.80, £2.40. DF: £7.60. CSF: £17.02. No bid

2.50 (2m ch) 1. Tenayestefign (J A McCarthy, 4-1); 2. Ryton Run (20-1), 3. Holy Wanderer (4-7 fav) 4 ran. NR: Chapel Of Barras 3l, dist. D Marks. Tote: £4.30, £3.10. DF: £11.50. CSF: £28.29. Chapel Of Barras (8-1) withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 10p in pound

3.20 (3m 2f 110yd hdle) 1. Holly Joe (D J Burchell, 3-1), 2. Nathan Blake (25-1); 3. Don du Cadran (5-1) Tallywagger 5-4 fav 6 ran. 2l, ½l. D Burchell. Tote: £4.40, £1.40, £4.40. DF: £64.40. CSF: £44.76.

3.50 (2m 4f) ch) 1. On The Tear (C Llewellyn, 6-1); 2. Little By Little (7-1); 3. Script (13-8) Blue Raven 11-8 fav 4 ran. 2l, 3l. F Lloyd. Tote: £7.90. DF: £7.90. CSF: £30.90

4.20 (2m hdle) 1. Sigma Run (T Hazlett, 8-13 fav); 2. Supersnips (4-1), 3. Jon's Choice (7-2) 4 ran. 2½l, hd. J Edwards. Tote: £1.30. DF: £2.20. CSF: £3.30

4.50 (2m 4f ch) 1. Crackling Frost (J F Titley, 5-6 fav); 2. Drumstick (Evens); 3 ran. NR: Mine's An Ace 15l. Mrs D Haine. Tote: £1.60

5.20 (2m hdle) 1. Never Golf Diamond (N Williamson, 11-4); 2. Ghostly Apparition (4-1), 3. Little Kenny (4-1) Bath Knight 9-4 fav. 7 ran. NR: Andsome Boy, Laughing Buccaneer. 7l, ½l. T Naughton. Tote: £3.80; £3.20, £2.10. DF: £8.30. Tno: £18.20. CSF: £12.69.

Placepot: £1,572.20. Quadpot: £80.70

Wincanton
Going: firm

2.10 (2m 6f hdle) 1. Kymin (A P McCoy, 5-4 jt-fav); 2. Galatason Jane (4-1) Kesanta 5-4 jt-fav 3 ran. Only two finished. NR: Up The Tempo 14l. D Murray Smith. Tote: £2.10. DF: £3.00. CSF: £5.02

2.40 (3m 1f 110yd chl) 1. Drumcullen (T J Murphy, 5-2); 2. Turpin's Green (12-1), 3. Foxgrove (11-1). Maremma Gale 9-4 fav. 7 ran. 10l, 10l. K Bailey. Tote: £3.00; £2.10, £2.50. DF: £12.40. CSF: £26.81

3.10 (2m hdle) 1. Indrapura (C Maude, 8-11 fav), 2. Canary Falcon (3-1), 3. Sailep (5-1) 5 ran. ¾l, 27l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.40; £1.00, £2.20. DF: £1.70. CSF: £3.28

3.40 (2m 5f chl) 1. Bit Of A Touch (J Frost, 2-1); 2. Herbert Buchanan (7-4), 3. Gabish (25-1). Lake Of Loughrea 13-8 fav 4 ran. 1¼l, dist. R Frost. Tote: £3.60. DF: £2.50. CSF: £5.71

4.10 (2m hdle) 1. Colintosser (S Wynne, 8-13 fav); 2. Ben Bowden (7-1), 3. Indira (7-2) 6 ran. SI, 1¼l. M P

Kid Glove's interception gives Yankees the edge

Keith Blackmore reports on the furore sparked by a Little League pitcher's timely contribution to a baseball play-off series

The Baltimore Orioles were expecting a hostile reception in Yankee Stadium on Wednesday night but not in their worst nightmares could they have foreseen the influence the New York Yankees supporters would have on the opening game of the best-of-seven American League championship series.

The Orioles lost, 5-4, in the eleventh inning of a game of high drama, but the decisive play came not from one of the many Yankees stars but from a 12-year-old schoolboy sitting in the right field seats. In the bottom of the eighth inning, with the Orioles clinging tenaciously to a 4-3 lead, Derek Jeter, the Yankees shortstop, launched what seemed to be a routine flyball high into right field.

As the ball dropped, the Orioles outfielder, Tony Tarasco, ran under it, ready to make the simple catch that would preserve his team's lead. He reckoned without Jeff Maier, of Tappan, New Jersey, who was sitting in the stand above. Maier reached out, caught the ball just above Tarasco's outstretched glove and the umpire signalled home run.

Maier, a Little League pitcher dubbed "Kid Glove!" by the *New York Daily News* yesterday, said that he thought the ball was going out and he had a right to catch it. "I didn't think it would happen to me. I feel something amazing has happened," he said.

Davey Johnson, the Orioles manager, was also amazed but not in quite the same way. He went ballistic, arguing, probably correctly, that the home run should have been ruled out on the grounds of spectator interference, and he was ejected from the game by the umpire, Rich Garcia.

Garcia admitted, after seeing the incident again on television, that he should have called an interference but by then it was too late and the game was sent into extra innings where Bernie Williams, a superstar in the making for the Yankees, crashed a solo home run to win the game.

The Orioles should have known better than to expect much help from the umpires who are still simmering over an incident two weeks ago when Roberto Alomar, the Baltimore second baseman, spat on umpire John Hirschbeck, then insulted him.

Alomar escaped immediate punishment on a technicality but he was subjected to a vicious media assault in New York, where even the mayor asked supporters to turn their backs on the game when the player came to bat.

They did that and more, showering the field with boos when Alomar came into the game and the abuse clearly had some effect since he managed only one hit in six at bats and made a crucial and uncharacteristic fielding error.

Events were less fevered in Atlanta, where the Atlanta Braves, the World Series champions, began their National League championship series by overcoming the St Louis Cardinals 4-2 behind John Smoltz, the outstanding pitcher in either league this year.

Smoltz gave up only five hits all night and took his post-season record to two wins, no defeats, having already won 24 games during the regular season. The Braves have now won all four of their play-off games, having swept the Los Angeles Dodgers 3-0 in the divisional series. In a tight game on Wednesday, the decisive hit came from the Braves catcher, Javy Lopez, whose single in the eighth inning drove in two runs.

The two championship series continued last night before moving to Baltimore and St Louis tomorrow for the next three games.



Maier sweeps the ball from the outstreched glove of the right fielder, Tarasco . . . Johnson, the Orioles coach, berates umpire Garcia for calling a home run and is ejected . . . the game is up for Maier, who is led away. Photographs: AP

THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

RUGBY LEAGUE

Selection problems for Larder

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

PARADISE is already a distant memory for Great Britain. New Zealand was always going to require a change of pace and, with minds obviously still back in Papua New Guinea and Fiji, the touring party had a rude awakening when they were held 22-22 by a Lion Red Cup XIII at Carlaw Park, Auckland, yesterday.

Phil Larder, the Britain coach, fielded the side that he had in mind for the first of three internationals against New Zealand, but, after a worryingly mis-shapen performance, he must be considering changes.

Britain made things tough for themselves against a composite side from the New Zealand domestic competition. A President's XIII, largely drawn from Auckland Warriors, is expected to provide an even sterner examination in Wellington next Tuesday, three days before the first international, in Auckland, which leaves Larder with a selection dilemma.

The Lion Red Cup XIII led for most of the match and were denied a late victory when a dropped-goal attempt by David Bailey struck a post. After hauling themselves back, Britain, too, could have won in injury time, but their celebrations as Anthony Sullivan went over at the corner were premature as there had been a forward pass.

Sullivan gave Britain an early lead after the first of five goals for Lion Red Cup by Ben Lythe. After tries by Tukere Barlow and Jonathan Hughes, Britain trailed 14-4, before an 85-metre solo score by Stuart Spruce.

Britain conceded a further try, to Gus Malietoa-Brown, early in the second half, but briefly led 22-20 after Iestyn Harris converted tries by Keiron Cunningham and Daryl Powell. Lythe's penalty, in the 68th minute, tied the contest. "I thought we played very badly," Larder said. "We made it tough for ourselves by dumb football."

In the opening match of their tour, on the same ground, Great Britain Academy showed the spirit that the senior side lacked in beating Auckland Under-19s 48-16.

SCORERS: Lion Red Cup XIII: Tries: Barlow, Hughes, Malietoa-Brown Goals: Lythe (5) Great Britain XIII: Tries: Sullivan, Spruce, Cunningham, Powell Goals: Harris (3)

☐ Robbie Paul, of Bradford Bulls, who is playing rugby union, on loan, for Harlequins until January, has asked Will Carling, the former England captain, to join him playing rugby league next summer. Bradford's deal with Harlequins allows for a player to return on an exchange loan.

SQUASH

Jackman aims for double top

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN PETALING JAYA MALAYSIA

CASSANDRA JACKMAN emerged yesterday as — potentially — the first women's world junior squash champion to add the senior equivalent to her list of honours. The 33-minute 9-3, 9-5, 9-0 defeat she inflicted on Claire Nitch, of South Africa, in the third round of the Perrier Women's World Open championship here, was of a class she has rarely achieved in five years of top competition since she took the junior title.

"I was pleased with that finish," Jackman, 23, said after she wrapped up her win with a final, three-minute game of penetrating power and accuracy. "I could hardly wait to get here and now I'm really beginning to enjoy it. I have never played that well against Claire before. She is a really tricky player and I always have trouble with her."

Jackman meets Sabine Schone, of Germany, another player with whom she has had trouble in the past, in the quarter-finals today. She lost to her in the 1993 World Open quarter-finals in Johannesburg and only just escaped a mid-match collapse during their encounter in the 1991 world junior final.

However, the young German stuttered against Leilani Marsh, of New Zealand, yesterday and it is hard to see her denying Jackman in the sort of fluent form she showed against Nitch. Another meeting with Michelle Martin, to whom Jackman lost in the semi-finals last year and the final of the 1994 World Open in Guernsey, beckons.

Martin, the defending champion, ended the 24 hours of fame enjoyed by Tracey Shenton, the British junior champion, after her second-round win over the Rebecca Macree, the No 13 seed. It took Martin 14 minutes, and a single lost rally, to reach a quarter-final against Liz Irving, the No 5 seed.

In the bottom half of the draw, Sue Wright, of Kent, defeated Fiona Geaves, 6-9, 9-2, 9-1, 9-0 in 42 minutes to reach a quarter-final against Suzanne Horner. The 33-year-old British champion, from Yorkshire, looked rather more labboured in beating a young Australian, Robyn Cooper, 9-6, 4-9, 10-9, 9-4 over 61 minutes.

The other quarter-final in the bottom half of the draw is an all-Australian affair between the No 2 seed, Sarah FitzGerald, and Carol Owens, the No 6 seed, who yesterday put out Linda Charman, of Sussex, 9-4, 9-1, 9-5 in 36 minutes.

Results, page 40

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.45 unless stated

Nationwide League
First division
Norwich City v Ipswich Town

Second division
Bristol City v York City

Uefa under-18 championship
Qualifying round
England v Finland
(at York City FC, 7.30)

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bohemians v Dundalk Shelbourne v St Patrick's Athletic

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: London v Thames Valley (8.0)
BOXING: Commonwealth featherweight championship (vacant) Jonjo Irwin (England) v Smith Odoom (Ghana) (at the London Hilton)
GOLF: Alfred Dunhill Cup (at St Andrews)
ICE HOCKEY: European Cup: Sheffield v CIA Hielo Jaca (8.0)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Belle Vue v Ipswich (7.30); Oxford v Reading (7.30). Peterborough v Exeter Conference League: Arena Essex v Reading (8.0)
TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Sheffield)

ROWING: OLYMPIC MEDAL-WINNER SETS OUT ON SOLO VOYAGE TOWARDS SYDNEY GAMES

Searle develops taste for single life

ANDREW LONGMORE



The taller, darker half of one of the most popular partnerships in sport folds his 6ft 5in frame round the smallest restaurant table in London and talks of the future. Greg Searle is going solo, leaving his straggly-haired brother Jonny, with whom he won gold in Barcelona and bronze in Atlanta in the coxless four, to fend for himself and is heading for the mystical world of the single sculler where hard men, loners and loonies lurk.

Not, on the face of it, the gregarious Searle's sort of place. But the natural break-up of the Atlanta four — the Searles back to their professions, Obholzer to practise medicine in Namibia and Foster, the eternal student, up to Oxford — and the competitive urge common to all great oarsmen to cut out all variables, to have no one to blame but themselves, has led Searle into a radical change in his search for gold in Sydney. Inside the sport, single sculls is recognised as the toughest discipline of all. "It's like the 100 metres," Searle said. "If you can do it, you do it, if not, you do something else." Steve Redgrave tried it and failed.

Searle says the decision not to row with his brother again was almost unspoken. Both sensed it was going to happen. After that, the thinking was easy. "If I'm not going to row with Jonny, I'd rather not row with anyone," he said. "But it will be a big wrench not to have him with me."

Searle's ability to cope physically with the demands of a solo career is unquestioned. He holds the world record ergonometer score [indoor rowing] — 5min 44.1sec for 2,000 metres. Mentally, his endurance will be tested over the next few years. Scullers love their own company; he thrives on good company.

"What worries me is the solitariness," he said. "I like the teamwork in a pair or a four, the reliance on other people and the special relationships you build up with the other members of the crew, Jonny in particular. But single sculls is not some magical artform, it's just rowing in a different boat."

No tougher perhaps than adjusting to the wide world again after Olympic myopia. Getting to work on time, mending the doorbell, getting married. All of life's petty concerns. "You put your whole life on hold, your job, your relationship, everything is frozen for months for just one day of sporting activity. Then suddenly it's all finished and you have to pick up the pieces again," Searle said. He is doing better than most.

He is back working for Gerald Eve, a firm of chartered surveyors, measuring buildings and wondering whether he should resit his exams. He is also about to remove himself from the list of the country's 50 most eligible bachelors after becoming engaged. Real life is back on track, but the disappointment of Atlanta still lingers. Bronze was a poor return for all that time and talent.

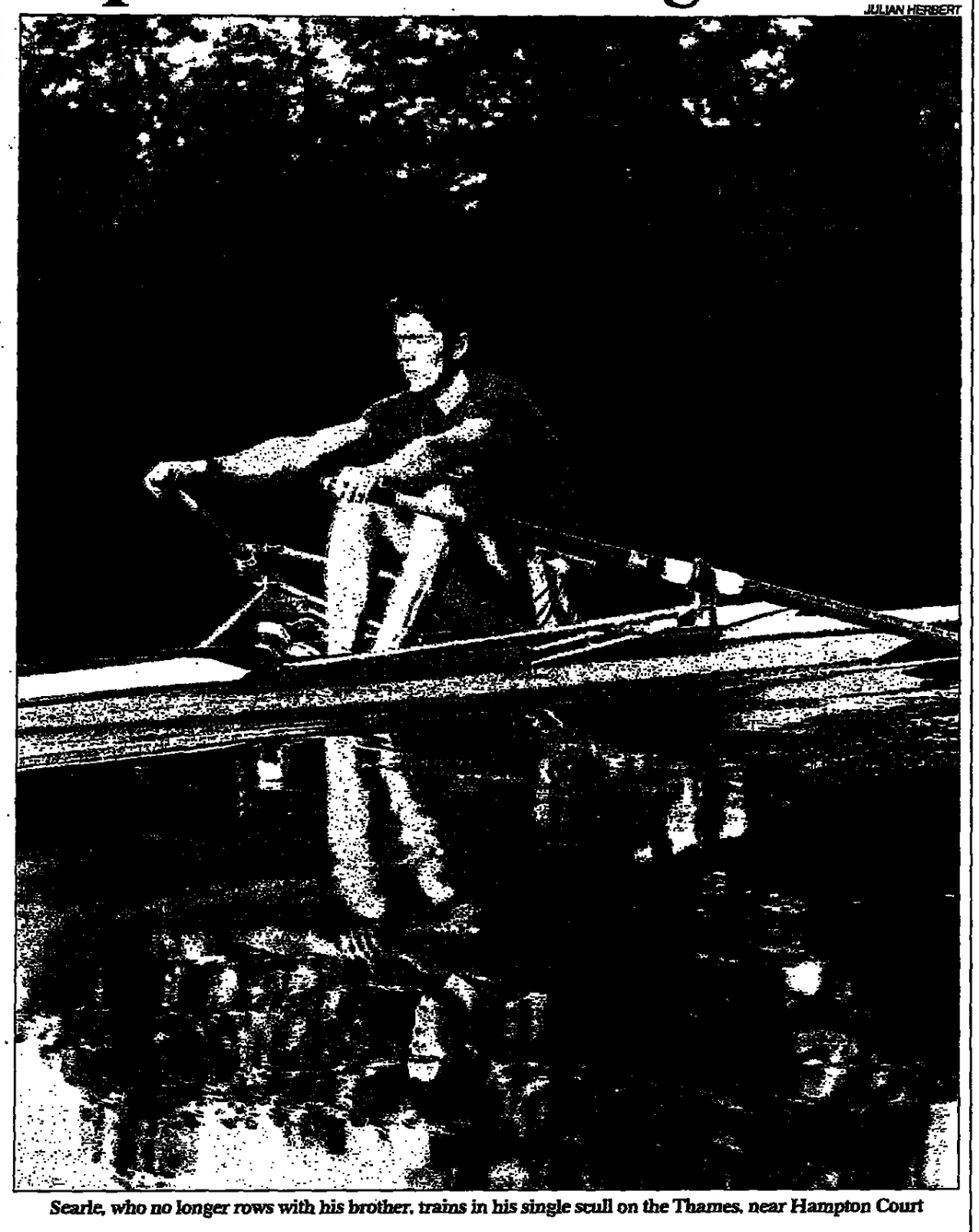
"I thought we were capable of winning, but I have to take my hat off to the Australians because they did what we did only better. They hardly won anything for four years then came out and won gold."

Their defeat — they call it that — has been well documented. Less well publicised was an incident on the highly-charged eve of the Olympic finals that saw two of Britain's rowing elite standing toe-to-toe and eyeballing each other like boxers before the first bell.

"It was just a silly thing," Searle said. "I had picked up some letters for Steve [Redgrave] which had come to our old base at the Olympic village instead of our hotel, but I forgot to pass them on for a day or so.

"Then, on the evening before the finals, we were all out in the little garden at the hotel doing some warm-up exercises and I told Steve I had some mail for him, upstairs. He wasn't too happy I'd kept it for so long. I walked away, but Jonny wouldn't have it.

JULIAN HERBERT



Searle, who no longer rows with his brother, trains in his single scull on the Thames, near Hampton Court

"The two of them stood about a foot apart just staring at each other. Through the gap between them I could see the look of astonishment on the faces of some of the hotel guests." To add to the comic touch, a French lady wandered in to the middle of it all wanting an autograph. "I had to tell her politely this was not quite the right moment."

Redgrave, 6ft 5in and 225lb v Jonny Searle, 6ft 4in, 200lb. You could have sold tickets for it. Luckily for Britain's medal tally, the moment dissolved peacefully. "There were no hard feelings the next day," Searle said. "We congratulated Steve and Matt on their gold and they commiserated with us on our bronze."

The old teams are breaking up, Redgrave and Pinsent, the Searles. Greg Searle says he will know in two years whether he can win gold on his own. He will be 26 by then. It is a long way off, but just thinking of Sydney makes Civvy Street a brighter place.

RUGBY UNION

Showdown looms with clubs over player contracts

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

CONFRONTATION has become second nature in rugby union of late but the potential for a further clash of interests exists in the International Rugby Football Board's (IRFB) decision to institute an inquiry into alleged breaches of its rules on player contracts.

During the IRFB meeting in Rome, which ended yesterday, Ireland and Canada asked the board to investigate the conduct of specific clubs in England and one in Wales over the release of players for international duties.

It is fundamental in a professional sport that there should be an ultimate world authority with powers to match and the inquiry will be an important test case for the board; the regulation in question is that which gives unions first call on players for the "national representative team or squad of that union".

Two dozen members of Ireland's squad play club rugby in England and the availability of players for provincial rugby in Ireland remains unresolved. At least six senior Canadians — Gareth Rees and Norman Hadley at Wasps, Rod Snow at Newport, Chris Michaluk, John Graf and Gareth Rowlands at Bridgend — are contracted to play in Britain, and Canada were clearly affected in the Pan-Am tournament last month.

The IRFB believes that some club contracts are contrary to their regulations and the Rugby Football Union and the Welsh Rugby Union have been asked for their findings within three weeks. "For the first time the IRFB has started to look closely at sanctioning and it's not always easy," Vernon Pugh, the board chairman, said. "It may well be the start of a new attitude in how we run our affairs."

The board has also agreed that substitutes, rather than replacements, may be used in international and senior matches from November 4. Before, players could only be replaced on medical grounds, although tactical substitution is commonplace in France and is sometimes tacitly assumed in the southern hemisphere. The board has also outlawed, on safety grounds, adding players to an eight-man scrum to secure a pushover try.

Meanwhile, the Heineken Cup, which kicks off tomorrow, has secured at least some terrestrial television coverage: BBC Wales will show matches up to and including the final and other BBC regions are expected to take a similar interest after the withdrawal, a fortnight ago, of ITV.

New role for Ponsford

WOMEN'S rugby, one of the game's greatest growth areas over the last decade, gained its first professional administrator yesterday when Nicky Ponsford was appointed development officer by the Rugby Football Union for Women (RFUW) (David Hands writes). The appointment of the Saracens and England hooker is believed to be the first of its kind in the world.

Ponsford, who fulfilled a similar role for the Welsh Yachting Association, will be based at the De Montfort University, Bedford. The creation of the post has been made possible by a Sports Council grant of £45,000 for each of the next four years, and Ponsford, 29, will be able to tap into the technical and material resources available from the Rugby Football Union.

"My aim is to bridge the gap between mini and senior rugby and improve opportunities for girls," she said.



Ponsford: first professional

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Last week I discussed opening leads against No-Trump contracts, and I pointed out that "fourth highest of your longest and strongest" is a good rule of thumb. However, if your partner has bid, and you want to keep him happy, lead his suit. This applies particularly if he has overcalled (rather than opened). You need a compelling reason to lead anything else. There is little more annoying than to have made a risky overcall that could have gone for a large penalty just to indicate a good lead, only to find that your partner attacks somewhere else.

Consider your lead on these two hands after this bidding:

S	W	N	E
—	—	1 H	1 S
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

(1) ♠5 ♥752 ♦K10873 ♣Q762

(2) ♠74 ♥87543 ♦QJ982 ♣72

Without the overcall, you would lead a diamond from either of these hands. After your partner has bid One Spade, it is clear to lead a spade — your partner's suit will be at least as good as yours, and he is likely to have some outside strength as well. If you have an honour and two or more small cards in his suit, always lead small, NOT the honour. I will explain why in a future refresher.

Sometimes, partner will not have bid, but you will know that he has good values because you have such a bad hand. The bidding goes:

S	W	N	E
—	—	1 H	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

There is a theory that, when you hold a bad hand, you should try to find your partner's suit, although I think it is overdone. What would you lead from these two hands:

(3) ♠J9754 ♥65 ♦863 ♣875

(4) ♠65 ♥Q8753 ♦1093 ♣875

The opponents presumably have 25 or 26 points between them, so you know partner has 13 or 14. Some would say that, on hand (3), you should lead a minor, hoping to find him at home there. I think that you should still try a spade — the best chance is to find your partner with four of the suit, or a holding like K Q x over dummy's A x.

With Hand (4), you know that he has shortage in hearts and yet could not make a take-out double or overcall One Spade. So he is likely to have length in one of the minors. As between clubs and diamonds, try the ten of diamonds — your slight extra strength there tips the balance.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Julius Silverman

Julius Silverman, the former Labour MP and barrister, died on September 21, aged 90. Last month, his *Times* obituary pointed out that Silverman's favourite recreation was playing chess and that he was reputed to be the champion at chess in the House of Commons.

This brief mention of Silverman's skill at chess does not do full justice to him. He played not just at social and club level but also at international standard, competing, for example, in the Birmingham international tournament of 1937, where several of the players were of grandmaster or master standard.

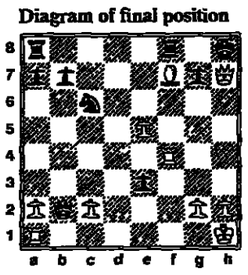
Silverman was an aggressive and sacrificial player and reports of the day said this of his queen sacrifice against Eliskases, the Austrian grandmaster: "Silverman got the better game against Eliskases, and in a tricky position where mate was possible in two ways, the latter allowed only for the more obvious variation, and a mate in three with a queen sacrifice was brought off."

White: Julius Silverman
Black: Erich Eliskases
Birmingham 1937

King's Gambit

1	e4	e5
2	f4	exf4
3	Bc4	Nf6
4	Nc3	c6
5	Nf3	d5
6	exd5	cxd5
7	Bb3	Bd6
8	0-0	0-0
9	d4	Be6
10	Ne5	Bxe5
11	dxe5	Qb6+
12	Kh1	Ng4
13	Qe2	d4
14	Nd5	Bxd5
15	Bxd5	Ne3
16	Bxe3	dxe3
17	Rxd4	Nc6
18	Qh5	Qxb2
19	Bxf7+	Kh8
20	Qxh7+	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



After 20. . . . Kxh7; 21. Rh4 is checkmate.

One of the fascinating things about the above game was Silverman's choice of opening, the romantic King's Bishop's variation of the King's Gambit. This reached its heyday in the 1850s, being used, for example, in the so-called "Immortal Game" between Andersseh and Kieseritsky, played in London in 1851.

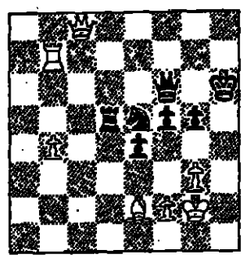
Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



White to play. This position is from the game Mariotti — Panchenko, Las Palmas, 1978. Black has tried to create an initiative by advancing his kingside pawns, but this has left him vulnerable to an invasion from the rear. How did White now finish off?

Solution on page 46

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ACCAROID
a. A gum
b. Without care
c. An ear infection

EXCLAVE
a. An outpost
b. An organ stop
c. The middle vertebra

CATANANCHE
a. A trapper's canoe
b. A yellow herb
c. A contraceptive

EMMENTAL
a. An artificial language
b. An Alpine plant
c. A cheese

Answers on page 46

ICE HOCKEY: STEELERS EXPECTED TO SLIP SMOOTHLY INTO NEXT STAGE

Sheffield to benefit from home advantage

SHEFFIELD Steelers have this weekend off from the Superleague to host group C of the European Cup and, although Manchester Storm have struggled in the newly-formed European League, are firm favourites to progress to the next stage of the older cup competition (Norman de Mesquita writes).

They face the champions of Spain (tonight), Holland (tomorrow) and Romania (on Sunday) and, with a strengthened squad and home advantage, are expected to succeed.

Last year, the Steelers travelled to Tilburg, in Holland, at the same stage of the competition and finished second in the group, but Dutch ice hockey is in the doldrums, so Tilburg Trappers are unlikely to be as strong as they were then. Spain has never been much of a power in the sport and the Romanians have had financial problems recently.

There will be two games each day with the Steelers playing each evening.

BOXING

McMillan set to act over title decision

COLIN McMILLAN, the No 1 contender for the Commonwealth featherweight championship, will take legal action if the Commonwealth Boxing Council recognises the winner of the bout between Jonjo Irwin, of Doncaster, and Smith Odoom, of Ghana, at the Hilton Hotel, London, tonight as the Commonwealth champion (Srikumar Sen writes).

McMillan's solicitors have written to the Council pointing out that the boxer had the right to be one of the challengers for the vacant title, as he had won the final eliminator and also beaten Irwin earlier this year.

Panix, McMillan's promoters, said: "We have been advised that the action by the Commonwealth Committee is unacceptable and in breach of an agreement already approved by the Committee. We trust that it will rectify the position and allow McMillan to get on with fighting in the ring instead of fighting in the courts."

Panos Eliades, of Panix, said: "If the Commonwealth Committee does not listen, it will be treating McMillan in the same way the WBC treated Lennox Lewis after he won his final eliminator against Lionel Butler."

McMillan said he did not seek an injunction against the bout at the Hilton as he did not want to halt a fellow boxer but he expected the Commonwealth Committee to declare the bout a final eliminator. Simon Block, the secretary of the Commonwealth Council, said, however, that the contest would go ahead as a title bout.

Teach, teach, teach, teach, teach, teach, teach, teach.

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FOOTBALL

Hoddle learns timely lesson from wily Poles

ROB HUGHES



Football Correspondent

We have had the euphoria, now is the time for reality and reason to come home. The narrow victory at Wembley over Poland, a team considerably more resilient and accomplished than they had been given credit for, should do England a favour.

It should teach the old country that it is going to have to work for a place at the World Cup finals in the summer of 1998. It should show Glenn Hoddle that nothing will be achieved by his new-boy praising of "my abundance of attacking talents" and, if we look across to Italy, the next visitors to Wembley in February, we should realise what lies down the road of great expectations.

Italy, like England, have won two matches out of two in group two, but the coach, Arrigo Sacchi, needed a police escort from the dressing-room to the press room and then the television studio after Italy squeezed past Georgia, thanks to a solitary goal from Fabrizio Ravanelli in Perugia, also on Wednesday night.

So, there they stand, England and Italy, the traditional but slightly struggling powers, each on a course of rehabilitation, each with followings that rise and fall on the scales of hype and derision as if on an hysterical barometer.

Hoddle seemed shocked at Wembley that Poland had deceived him, that they had pretended they would come in stubborn retreat and, when they scored the first goal, had dared to throw four players into counter-attack. One is not trying to undermine his belief, his faith in England, but it does seem that he is a young manager-coach in too much of a hurry. I applaud Hoddle for his vision in wishing to change the ludicrous presumption that long ball and high effort will see England through — those days, just like the summer of 96, are gone — but a defence at Wembley without a recognised centre back looked terribly vulnerable to a Poland side whose playmaker, Piotr Nowak, had read the match so well in anticipation.

He warned each of his colleagues beforehand that Alan Shearer was a potent striker who could score from any angle and almost any distance, but he insisted that Poland would play the game their own way, on the ground, with technique and certainly not with submission. Strangely, Nowak, 32, has played only 14 internationals during a wandering career that has taken him to Turkey, Switzerland and, at present, to the *Bundesliga*. He is the son of a former professional player, groomed throughout childhood to master the ball, and how it showed on Wembley's green turf.

To acquire that kind of technical skill cannot simply be induced by willpower. Hoddle is searching for refinements, for long-term players and ideas to bring England back out into the world game. Fine, he must be supported — but remember the words of Dorothy Parker: "You can't teach an old dogma new tricks." The process, in other words, will be gradual.

Meanwhile, simply being associated with England, now that the marketeers have discovered the game, is worth hundreds of thousands of pounds. Paul Merson, back on the fringe of the squad, this week signed a £250,000 sponsorship contract with Hi-Tec; Les Ferdinand was given a similar cash injection to wear Adidas boots; and Dominic Matteo, though he returned unfit to Liverpool before the Poland game, was given a four-year extension to his contract at Anfield.

The money is laced with danger. Sacchi, among the most successful club managers Italy has known, is paid £750,000 per year and is contracted until after the 1998 World Cup. His team graced the European championship with the finest touch-play in the tournament, yet, through frailties compounded by his constant rotating of the players at his disposal, was eliminated in round one.

Italy won "only" 3-1 in Moldova last Saturday; they beat Georgia "only" 1-0 on Wednesday; and, as Sacchi points out, they have only lost one match, to the Czech Republic, out of ten in the past year — yet he can scarcely move without protection from the *carabinieri*. He has to read newspaper diatribes about his "insipid, incapable, boringly over-tactical team".

On Wednesday, Sacchi wearily pushed back the peak of his blue baseball cap. "The whistles are the results of an orchestrated campaign," he insisted. "The real truth is that we've picked up three golden points, six if you count Moldova."

So, Italy, getting tired of the man who has led them to a World Cup final while England failed even to qualify for USA 94, rails against Sacchi. His tenuous hold on his job was maintained by Ravanelli, the Middlesbrough forward, who scored twice in Moldova, via a free kick and a penalty, and ensured victory with a brave header, twixt goalkeeper and a defender, on Wednesday night.

For England, Shearer did something similar and his new national coach, Hoddle, came away chastened by the manner of the victory, but relieved nevertheless. "Hoddle for PM," read the words on one banner. Why demote the man so soon after he has taken the job that he considers the ultimate and which, ultimately, leads where Sacchi walks?

ADRIAN SHERATT



Arsène Wenger set the ball rolling on the new regime at Arsenal when he conducted his first training session yesterday. The Frenchman has eased himself into the role of manager since arriving from Nagoya Grampus Eight, of Japan, late last month

Scotland wait for fallout of Estonia farce

Kevin McCarra looks at Fifa's dilemma after Wednesday's non-event in Tallinn

After all the hilarity, there come the consequences. The farce of Estonia's decision not to show up for the World Cup qualifying match against Scotland in Tallinn on Wednesday, in protest over a Fifa ruling that brought the kick-off forward at very short notice, has been followed by regrets and uncertainty.

Scotland had been unhappy with the temporary floodlighting and Fifa, the football's world governing body, belatedly agreed, on the morning of the game, that the tie should begin at 3pm local time, rather than 6.45pm. The intention was to ensure that the action was bathed in daylight, but the refusal of the Estonia Football Association to acquiesce has created a murky situation.

Yesterday, newspapers in Tallinn floated the idea that the whole episode had been a cunning ploy by the Scots to avoid the risk of meeting Estonia. Fifa's directives do, after all, suggest that Craig Brown's team will now be deemed to have won 3-0 a match that never took place. In truth, though, the visitors would much have preferred the fixture to go ahead.

The Scotland party was downcast on the flight home, as if the whole purpose of its existence had been removed. There is distress, too, that a relationship has been put in jeopardy. Friendships had sprung up between the footballing bodies of each country because of the bond created by Uefa's Eastern European Assistance Board.

Its schemes invite the continent's wealthier nations to help those who are, in sporting terms, only beginning to emerge. "We have had close links with Estonia and we hope these will continue," Jim Farry, the chief executive of the Scottish Football Association (SFA), said. "Last year, three Estonian officials visited Glasgow for a week and we looked after them while they studied how things work at an administrative level over here."

It would appear, however, that lessons in the necessity of obeying Fifa diktat were not absorbed on the trip. When Fifa's World Cup organising committee meets on November 7 to consider Wednesday's events, it will find Estonia protesting that no-one should be asked to comply with the unreasonable.

"The most important thing for us was the spectators, the people from the countryside coming in buses to the match," Mart Tarmak, the vice-chairman of the Estonia FA said. "By the time they arrived, the game would already be over."

While difficulties with arrangements over staffing and security at the game would also have been created, this argument is unlikely to mollify Fifa. As a second line of defence, the Estonia FA seems to be preparing a plea for clemency. Ainar Leppanen, its secretary, argues that losses of around £170,000 have already been suffered since the proceeds of television rights and ticket sales have been lost, while the cost of bringing in additional lighting from Finland must also be borne.

Fifa, however, may be ever more enraged as it takes in the complexity of the problem that Estonia has presented it. Declaring Scotland the winners, for example, will bring uproar from the other nations in group four and some of them have men of influence to press their case. As well as being Swedish, Lennart Johanssen is also president of Uefa, European football's governing body.

Soon after hearing of the debacle in Tallinn, he told Swedish television viewers: "There would be a substantial imbalance if a 3-0 score stands. The most fair thing is to have a replay." Even if Fifa is unlikely to send Scotland back to Estonia, it may recognise that



Brown: problems

awarding them an unearned victory is unjust to rivals in the group. There is a case for casting Estonia out of the tournament and declaring void the matches they have played. That, however, would work to the unmerited advantage of Belarus, who lost in Tallinn on Saturday.

It is an exasperating situation and Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, is suffering with everyone else. On Wednesday, he lost out on the chance to study the performance of relatively untried players such as Billy Dodds, Jackie Mcnamara and Paul Lambert. In addition, the Fifa meeting on November 7 that will have to decide whether Gary McAllister has completed the one-match suspension due to be served in Tallinn does not take place until a mere three days before the next World Cup tie, against Sweden at Ibrox on November 10. Brown's plans have thus been thrown into confusion.

When Fifa does turn its mind to the punishment of any offenders, it ought also to number its own commissioner at the match in Tallinn, Jean-Marie Gantenbein, of Luxembourg, whose indecision over the floodlights so delayed a ruling and threw into confusion a whole World Cup qualifying group.

Ireland victory gives McCarthy some of the answers

FROM PETER BALL IN DUBLIN

IRELAND woke up yesterday to happy memories of the night before and a pleasing sight — the World Cup qualifying group eight table. It shows Mick McCarthy's team sitting at the top, above Romania on goal difference. Ireland could hardly have made a better start.

McCarthy, of course, is not fooled. Sitting next to Dokica Hadzievski at the post-match press conference on Wednesday night, he answered for the FYR Macedonia coach when the latter was asked whether Romania or Ireland are the better team.

"Romania," McCarthy proferred in a stage whisper. Hadzievski half accepted the offering. "Romania are very strong," he said. "They have 30 very good players, they have a player who is one of the best strikers in Spain, who can't even get into their squad." However, he added, with an apologetic smile to McCarthy, "But Ireland are very very strong too."

McCarthy was not deflected. "Romania are favourites to win the group," he said. "They always will be. They are number one. We just have to keep doing what we are doing."

More will be known, particularly about the defensive strength of the Ireland team, in April when they visit first Macedonia, which could be a long way short of the formality suggested by the result on Wednesday, and then Romania. For the moment, however, McCarthy's new team is gelling together nicely.

McCarthy has always insisted that the passion, and willingness to hassle and close teams down that characterised Jack Charlton's Ireland must not be lost in the transition to a more controlled passing game.

On the evidence of Wednesday night, he has succeeded in marrying the two, Ireland winning with a combination of aggression and fluent passing movements.

The opening goal, Jason McAteer's first for his country, was outstanding in conception and execution. Watching the television highlights revealed not just the fine passes by Ian Harte and Alan McLoughlin, the Portsmouth midfield player, to set up the goal, which had been obvious at the time, but also how perfectly timed McLoughlin's run was.

McLoughlin and Tony Cascarino, who scored the other two goals, are two of yesterday's men revelling in the new approach. Cascarino, the Marseilles forward, who was named man of the match, could have had another three goals and also set up wonderful chances for Townsend and Kenna.

Encouragingly for McCarthy, the young players are taking to international football with relish. The maturity and intelligence of Gary Breen, of Birmingham City, is marked, but both Keith O'Neill, of Norwich City, and Harte, of Leeds United, are adapting well to the new demands. The only young player out of sorts at the moment is Shay Given.

He was the outstanding discovery during McCarthy's long run of non-competitive matches, played while Given was on loan to Sunderland. However, he was left out on Wednesday because, since his return to Blackburn Rovers, he is no longer playing first-team football.

That is a subject Ray Harford, the Blackburn manager, may be called to address sooner rather than later.

Weah expresses desire for move to England

BY DAVID MADDOCK

HE IS the world football player of the year, and his ultimate destination is England. George Weah, the AC Milan forward, confirmed as much when he was honoured as the Commonwealth sportsman of the year.

At a ceremony in London, John Fashanu, a friend through their work with Unicef, accepted the award on Weah's behalf, and speaking from Sierra Leone, where he was on international duty with Liberia, Weah indicated that he wants to play in England.

The African has three years of his contract in Italy left to run, but Milan have already suggested that he could be made available at the end of the season. Blackburn Rovers, Everton, Arsenal and Chelsea, the FA Carling Premiership clubs, have registered an interest.

Weah revealed his desire for such a move. "I'm only sorry I cannot be in London at the official presentation in person, but I would like to thank the English supporters," he said.

"Hopefully we will be seeing a lot more of each other in the not so distant future. I am a great admirer of the English game, and I would like to play in England one day. I have great respect for the game there, for its integrity. My friend John Fashanu has said a lot about it, and I would like to experience it myself."

Blackburn and Everton have tabled bids in excess of £10 million for Weah, 29. Milan responded by dismissing any suggestion of an immediate move, given his involvement in the European Cup Champions' League, but Weah has been told that he will be allowed to move — for a considerable fee — when the campaign is over.

Blackburn, with their vast resources and great desire for a forward, are early favourites to capture Weah. His eyes, however, are set on a move to



Weah: influence

London, and Chelsea in particular interest him. Weah has great respect for Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea manager, would like to live in London, and is interested in the prospect of a partnership with Gianluca Vialli.

Arsenal, too, would be an inviting prospect, given his relationship with Arsène Wenger, a former manager at AS Monaco.

Fashanu, the former Wimbledon forward, would be a key to the move. He has formed a close relationship with Weah since the pair became involved in Unicef projects together, and could even be asked to help in producing a package to bring the player to England.

Fashanu offered a tribute to the work of his friend when collecting the award at the ceremony in the West End of London. "To have the biggest football star going behind Unicef has done wonders already," he said. "George's influence on the African people can not be underestimated, it's absolutely massive. Let's face it, until he emerged at Monaco, not many could tell you much about Liberia, let alone where it was."

☐ Mike Walsh, the former Bury manager, has been appointed first-team coach to Steve McMahon at Swindon Town.

Braintree free from great expectations

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

BRAINTREE Town did their chances of shedding the unwanted label of being favourites for this season's FA Carlsberg Vase no good at all by clobbering Cornard United 9-2 in the second qualifying round last Saturday.

So it is with a sense of some relief — and a little trepidation — that Braintree travel tomorrow for a match in which they are decided underdogs, an FA Cup third qualifying round tie against Stevenage Borough, the Vauxhall Conference leaders. The Essex club has never reached the first round and it is a cherished ambition.

"We keep getting to the fourth qualifying round and losing to the likes of Kettering and Barnet," Tom Woodley, the club secretary, said. Of rather more pressing concern for Braintree is to regain the status they forfeited when they switched from the Beazer Homes League to the Icis League this season. The price was dropping to the third division.

"The thinking behind the move was not financial," Woodley said, "it was the long trips we had to make. Fifteen out of 20 were from places like Fleet in Hampshire to Cinderford in the Forest of Dean.

"We had one or two cup successes and found players had to leave before lunch and then not return until 2.30 to 3.00 in the morning. We were having to take weakened teams, which wasn't fair on us or our opponents."

The switch was granted only after a second appeal but found favour with the players, who stayed at Cressing Road with one exception John Bishop, a central defender, who moved to Sudbury Town.

The benefit of such cohesion is to be seen in a 20-match unbeaten run, extending to the end of last season. The most impressive performance so far was a 4-1 success at Aylesbury United, from the premier division of the Icis League, in a Guardian Insurance cup tie.

The Vase match last Saturday saw the combination of Gary Bennett, the former Colchester United midfield player, and Wade Falana at its most lethal. Falana, whose start to the season had been interrupted by a five-match suspension, scored six times.

Missing the match tomorrow is George Rosling, the chairman for the past eight years. He is not scheduled to return from holiday in Barbados until Sunday. Rosling must hope that Stevenage will be distracted by their important Vauxhall Conference match at Woking next Tuesday, and so will be able to take in the fourth qualifying round.

WORLD CUP 1998 EUROPEAN QUALIFYING DETAILS

GROUP ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Denmark	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Croatia	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Greece	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Slovenia	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Bosnia	2	0	0	2	1	7	0

RESULTS: Greece 3 Bosnia-Herzegovina 0; Slovenia 0 Denmark 2; Bosnia-Herzegovina 1 Croatia 4; Denmark 2 Greece 1.
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 10: Slovenia v Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia v Greece March 29 1997: Croatia v Denmark, April 2: Croatia v Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina v Greece, April 30: Denmark v Slovenia; Greece v Croatia. June 8: Denmark v Bosnia-Herzegovina. Aug 20: Bosnia-Herzegovina v Denmark. Sept 6: Croatia v Bosnia-Herzegovina; Slovenia v Greece. Sept. 10: Denmark v Croatia; Bosnia-Herzegovina v Slovenia. Oct 11: Greece v Denmark; Slovenia v Croatia.

GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Italy	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Poland	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Georgia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Moldova	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

RESULTS: Moldova 0 England 3; Moldova 1 Italy 3, England 2 Poland 1; Italy 1 Georgia 0
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 9: Georgia v England, Nov 10: Poland v Moldova. Feb 12: England v Italy. March 29 1997: Italy v Moldova, April 2: Poland v Italy, April 30: England v Georgia, Italy v Poland. May 31: Poland v England. June 7: Georgia v Moldova. June 14: Poland v Georgia. Sept 10: England v Moldova; Georgia v Italy; Moldova v Georgia. Oct 7: Moldova v Poland. Oct 11: Italy v England; Georgia v Poland.

GROUP THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	2	2	0	0	8	0	6
Switzerland	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Hungary	2	1	0	1	1	3	3
Azerbaijan	2	1	0	1	1	5	3
Finland	2	0	0	2	2	4	0

RESULTS: Norway 5 Azerbaijan 0; Azerbaijan 1 Switzerland 0; Hungary 1 Finland 0; Finland 2 Switzerland 3, Norway 3 Hungary 0
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 10: Switzerland v Norway; Azerbaijan v Hungary. April 2 1997: Azerbaijan v Finland. April 30: Norway v Finland; Switzerland v Hungary. June 8: Finland v Azerbaijan; Hungary v Norway. Aug 20: Finland v Norway; Hungary v Switzerland Sept 6: Switzerland v Finland, Azerbaijan v Norway Sept 10: Hungary v Azerbaijan; Norway v Switzerland. Oct 11: Finland v Hungary; Switzerland v Azerbaijan.

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	3	2	0	1	7	3	6
Scotland	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
Austria	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Belarus	4	1	1	2	3	7	4
Estonia	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Latvia	3	0	1	2	2	5	1

RESULTS: Sweden 6 Belarus 1, Austria 0 Scotland 0; Belarus 1 Estonia 0; Latvia 1 Sweden 2; Latvia 0 Scotland 2; Estonia 1 Belarus 0; Belarus 1 Latvia 1; Sweden 0 Austria 1; Estonia v Scotland — match abandoned, result pending Fifa decision.
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 9: Austria v Latvia, Nov 10: Scotland v Sweden. March 29 1997: Scotland v Estonia. April 2: Scotland v Austria. April 30: Austria v Estonia; Sweden v Scotland; Latvia v Belarus. May 18: Estonia v Latvia. June 8: Latvia v Austria; Estonia v Sweden, Belarus v Scotland. Aug 20: Estonia v Austria; Belarus v Sweden. Sept 6: Austria v Sweden; Latvia v Estonia; Scotland v Belarus. Sept 10: Belarus v Austria; Sweden v Latvia. Oct 11: Austria v Belarus, Sweden v Estonia, Scotland v Latvia.

GROUP FIVE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Russia	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
Israel	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Luxembourg	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

RESULTS: Israel 2 Bulgaria 1; Russia 4 Cyprus 0; Luxembourg 1 Bulgaria 2, Israel 1 Russia 1.
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 10: Cyprus v Israel; Luxembourg v Russia. Dec 14: Cyprus v Bulgaria. Dec 15: Israel v Luxembourg. March 29 1997: Cyprus v Russia. March 30: Luxembourg v Israel April 2: Bulgaria v Cyprus. April 30: Israel v Cyprus; Russia v Luxembourg June 8: Bulgaria v Luxembourg; Russia v Israel Aug 20: Bulgaria v Israel. Sept 7: Luxembourg v Cyprus. Sept 10: Bulgaria v Russia. Oct 11: Cyprus v Luxembourg; Russia v Bulgaria.

GROUP SIX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	3	3	0	0	17	2	9
Slovakia	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Czech Republic	2	1	1	0	6	0	4
Spain	2	1	1	0	6	2	4
Faeroe Isles	4	0	0	4	5	19	0
Malta	3	0	0	3	0	18	0

RESULTS: Yugoslavia 3 Faeroe Islands 1; Yugoslavia 6 Malta 0; Faeroe Islands 1 Slovakia 2, Faeroe Islands 2 Spain 6, Czech Republic 6 Malta 0, Slovakia 6 Malta 0, Faeroe Islands 1 Yugoslavia 8; Czech Republic 0 Spain 0.
MATCHES TO COME: Oct 23: Slovakia v Faeroe Islands Nov 10: Yugoslavia v Czech Republic Nov 13: Spain v Slovakia. Dec 14: Spain v Yugoslavia Dec 18: Malta v Spain Feb 12 1997: Spain v Malta. March 31: Malta v Slovakia. April 2: Czech Republic v Yugoslavia. April 30: Malta v Faeroe Islands; Yugoslavia v Spain May 21: Slovakia v Czech Republic June 8: Faeroe Islands v Malta, Spain v Czech Republic, Yugoslavia v Slovakia. Aug 20: Czech Republic v Faeroe Islands. Sept 6: Faeroe Islands v Czech Republic Sept 10: Slovakia v Yugoslavia. Sept 24: Malta v Czech Republic; Slovakia v Spain. Oct 11: Czech Republic v Slovakia, Malta v Yugoslavia, Spain v Faeroe Islands.

GROUP SEVEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	3	2	0	1	12	3	6
Belgium	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Holland	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Turkey	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
San Marino	3	0	0	3	0	14	0

RESULTS: San Marino 0 Wales 5; Wales 6 San Marino 0; Belgium 2 Turkey 1, Wales 1 Holland 3. San Marino 0 Belgium 3
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 9: Holland v Wales Nov 10: Turkey v San Marino. Dec 14: Belgium v Holland; Wales v Turkey March 29 1997: Wales v Belgium; Holland v San Marino April 2: Turkey v Holland April 30: San Marino v Holland, Turkey v Belgium. June 7: Belgium v San Marino Aug 20: Turkey v Wales. Sept 8: Holland v Belgium. Sept 10: San Marino v Turkey Oct 11: Holland v Turkey, Belgium v Wales.

GROUP EIGHT

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ireland	2	2	0	0	8	0	6
Romania	2	2	0	0	7	0	6
Lithuania	3	2	0	1	4	4	6
Macedonia	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Iceland	3	0	1	2	1	7	1
Liechtenstein	3	0	0	3	1	10	0

RESULTS: Macedonia 3 Liechtenstein 0; Iceland 1 Macedonia 1, Liechtenstein 0 Ireland 5; Romania 3 Lithuania 0, Lithuania 2 Iceland 0; Iceland 0 Romania 4; Ireland 3 Macedonia 0; Lithuania 2 Liechtenstein 1
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 9: Liechtenstein v Macedonia Nov 10: Ireland v Iceland Dec 14: Macedonia v Romania. March 29 1997: Romania v Liechtenstein, April 2: Lithuania v Romania, Macedonia v Ireland April 30: Liechtenstein v Lithuania, Romania v Ireland June 7: Ireland v Liechtenstein; Macedonia v Iceland. June 11: Iceland v Lithuania. Aug 19: Liechtenstein v Iceland Aug 20: Ireland v Lithuania; Romania v Macedonia. Sept 6: Iceland v Ireland; Liechtenstein v Romania, Lithuania v Macedonia. Sept 10: Romania v Iceland, Lithuania v Ireland Oct 11: Iceland v Liechtenstein, Ireland v Romania; Macedonia v Lithuania.

GROUP NINE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ukraine	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Portugal	3	1	1	1	4	2	4
Germany	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
Armenia	3	0	2	1	2	6	2
Northern Ireland	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Albania	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

RESULTS: Northern Ireland 0 Ukraine 1, Armenia 0 Portugal 0, Northern Ireland 1 Armenia 1; Ukraine 2 Portugal 1, Albania 0 Portugal 3 Armenia 1 Germany 5
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 9: Albania v Armenia, Germany v Northern Ireland; Portugal v Ukraine Dec 14: Northern Ireland v Albania; Portugal v Germany March 29 1997: Albania v Ukraine, Northern Ireland v Portugal April 2: Albania v Germany Ukraine v Northern Ireland April 30: Germany v Ukraine; Armenia v Northern Ireland May 7: Ukraine v Armenia, June 7: Portugal v Albania, Ukraine v Germany Aug 20: Northern Ireland v Germany; Portugal v Armenia; Ukraine v Albania Sept 6: Germany v Portugal; Armenia v Albania Sept 10: Albania v Northern Ireland Germany v Armenia. Oct 11: Germany v Albania, Portugal v Northern Ireland; Armenia v Ukraine

هكذا من الأصل

Courteous Villeneuve promises Hill a fair fight

Oliver Holt, in Suzuka, finds the Formula One world championship rivals in a relaxed mood



Villeneuve: refuses to adopt questionable tactics

The child in the fairground opposite the pits here had just slipped a small coin into the machine when the crowd surged forward towards Jacques Villeneuve. A parental hand dragged her into the mêlée to get a sight of the young French-Canadian, just as a cluster of paper butterflies exploded into the glass bowl she had been staring at and began battering themselves against its sides.

Villeneuve pressed on unruffled, past the big wheel that dominates the skyline, past the screaming passengers on a corkscrew ride and the people strapped on a ledge that hurtled them up a tower and rocketed them down again. He was beginning the biggest weekend of his motor racing career as a fairground attraction, surrounded by sinister B-movie hints about life in the fast lane of Formula One.

Villeneuve needs to win the Japanese Grand Prix here on Sunday, in this wasteland of chemical plants and car factories south of the city of Nagoya, to have any chance of prising the world championship from his Williams-Renault team-mate, Damon Hill. Even then, Hill must finish outside the top six to hand the title to his young rival.

In the circumstances, Villeneuve, a graduate of the no-holds-barred IndyCar series, might have been expected to try everything he knew — every psychological tactic, every underhand ploy at his disposal — to try to unsettle Hill.

Instead, Villeneuve, who has earned great credit in his first season in Formula One with his studied courtesy, his habit of conducting press conferences in French, English and Italian, and by staying until the last question has been answered, has rigidly refused to stray from the path that leads to an amicable relationship with the Briton.

Even on this weekend, when everything is at stake, he said yesterday — after he had fought his way to the paddock through the hordes of followers, only to be mobbed again by the media, who pinned him against some packing cases — that there would be no deviation from those tactics.

"There are many ways to exert pressure on Damon," Villeneuve said, "but I don't think off-the-track pressure is a good one to use. I don't think that is very fair, so that is not a route I will take. All we can do is be quick and see what happens to Damon.

"If I had wanted to play psychological games, I would have started a few races ago, but it is not something to be proud of. It is not worth using a tactic that makes you happy if you win for one week, because what remains in your mind is the way that you did it. On paper it looks great, but . . .

"If anything, the relationship between Damon and I has been better towards the end of the season. There has never been any problem between us. There is a good respect. There have always been good battles on the race track between us and the best battles happen when there is no hate. If you hate someone when you race against them, you will just make mistakes. Your thinking will be clouded."

Villeneuve admitted that his chances of snatching the title from Hill were slim. He said that there was less pressure on him than on Hill because Hill had more to lose, but he even gave his rival some advice on how to make the championship safe.

"I know what I would do in his shoes," Villeneuve said. "The one thing that you do not want to do is push like an idiot. But at the same time, you do not want to be fighting against other people. You do not want to be in the midst of other battles. You have to judge it once you are in the race. If you have had a bad start, you need to get clear of battles straightaway.

"I just have to try to get pole position, get away cleanly at the start and hope that there is some mayhem going on behind me. There is a lot at stake, but there is not much I can do. He [Hill] has got more to lose and I have got nothing to lose. Now that I have got so close to the title, it would be a disappointment to lose it on Sunday, but overall it has been a very positive first season for me, so I will be happy anyway."

Hill is unlikely to heed Villeneuve's advice, but he did admit yesterday that he was in a quandary about how to approach the race: whether to attempt to win the championship in a blaze of glory by scoring his eighth victory of the season, or to be more conservative and ensure finishing among the points. "Right now, I haven't made up my mind what I'm going to do," Hill said.

"I'm a racing driver and I want to win the race. There would be no better way of winning the championship than by winning the race. That would be the perfect result, the perfect end. In some ways, there is more to be said for that. It would be tempting to do that.

"Purely from a racing satisfaction point of view, that is what I like doing best. Going for the win is the most enjoyable way to drive, but the bigger prize is the world championship. I have a greater responsibility to that than another race win.

"I cannot deny, though, that there is something inside me that likes to silence critics, and I do like to prove myself. I don't like anyone taking anything away from my achievements, so to win the race would mean that there was no way anyone could take anything away from my championship. It would just be nice to do it completely."

SAILING

British crew get off to flying start in Europe

By Edward Gorman
Sailing Correspondent

JOHN MERRICKS and Ian Walker made a sparkling start to the Glenfiddich Melges 24 European Gold Cup yesterday with a convincing win in the first race and a second place in race two, giving them a comfortable overnight lead of 15 points.

The pairing, who are sailing with two of Russell Peters's *Ultra 30* crew, Nick Powell and Mark Tomson, have underlined their potency in what, for them, is the new world of keelboat racing, and are now in a good position to win the championship, taking place off Barcelona.

In the first race, Britain's Olympic silver medal-winners in the 470 class, started with most of the rest of the 47-strong fleet in a scrum at the pin end and emerged at the weather mark in fourth place. By the second lap, they had taken *Glenfiddich 3* into the lead and eventually won by over a minute from Javier Carratala Sabater, of Spain, on *Garvalin IV* with Keith Musto, on *Hooked on Speed*, in third.

In race two, Merricks and Walker looked in danger of being squeezed out with under a minute to go. But a gap opened up for them just in time and they slotted in underneath the committee boat and immediately to windward of *Giorgio Zuccoli*, the defending European champion, from Italy.

Merricks was the first to tack into port and was away in clear air. At the weather mark, Merricks was in second, 30 seconds behind Luis Martinez Doreste, of Spain.

There was then a fascinating duel between the two crews. Merricks and Walker caught up and then overtook the Spaniard at the leeward gate to be over one minute ahead. But going upwind for the last time Doreste, on *Garvalin III*, found more speed in the failing breeze and overtook to win by nearly 1½ minutes.

Doreste is second overall with the Norwegian, Ole Peter Pollen, on *Frem I* third. The best of the remaining 21-strong British contingent is Ian Southworth, on *Ancasta*, who is fifth overall with *Musto* sixth and David Shellcock on *Spot On* seventh.

☐ Mike Golding, on *Group 4*, continues to lead the BT Global Challenge fleet as the yachts head south towards the Cape Verde Islands. He has a 16-mile advantage over Chris Tibbs, on *Concert*, with some 2,881 miles still to go to the finish of the first leg in Rio de Janeiro. Among recent dramas are a bad broach for *Save the Children*, skippered by Andy Hindley, which resulted in the loss of a spinnaker, and a collision with a shark by *Ocean Rover*.

BT Global chart, page 46

Bill Elliott on a golfer forced to tee up against doctors' orders

Allenby aims to revive fortune by beating the cruellest cut

Robert Allenby is preparing to grimace and then to strike the most richly rewarded single shot in golf this year if he is forced to tee up his ball at the Volvo Masters in a fortnight's time.

In theory, the Australian golfer can gently poke his ball forward off the 1st tee at Valderrama with a putter, retire hurt immediately and still collect around £125,000 for his day's work. If nothing else, this should at least put a smile back on his face.

Ironically this farcical situation, which, if it happens, will throw a dark cloud over a tournament that is carefully designed to provide a glittering and sunny climax to the European season, comes about because of a car crash involving Allenby just a few miles up the road on the Costa del Sol.

'If he now chooses to hit just one shot that's up to him'

It is three weeks since the 25-year-old suffered a broken breast bone, cuts and bruises after his car struck a bollard. After receiving treatment in hospital he flew back to England in an air ambulance and is now recuperating at home in Melbourne.

"I'm very lucky to be alive," he said at the time. "Now my health must come before my golf and so my first priority is to recover fully and get fit again."

It is a crash that threatens to cost Allenby, a winner on the PGA European Tour three times in 1996, considerably more than a no-claims bonus. Lying third in the Volvo rankings with £456,803 prize-money, he is on course to earn an end-of-season bonus worth £73,000.

However, in order to qualify for his enviable share of the bonus pool, Allenby must play in the Masters, despite medical advice to the contrary.

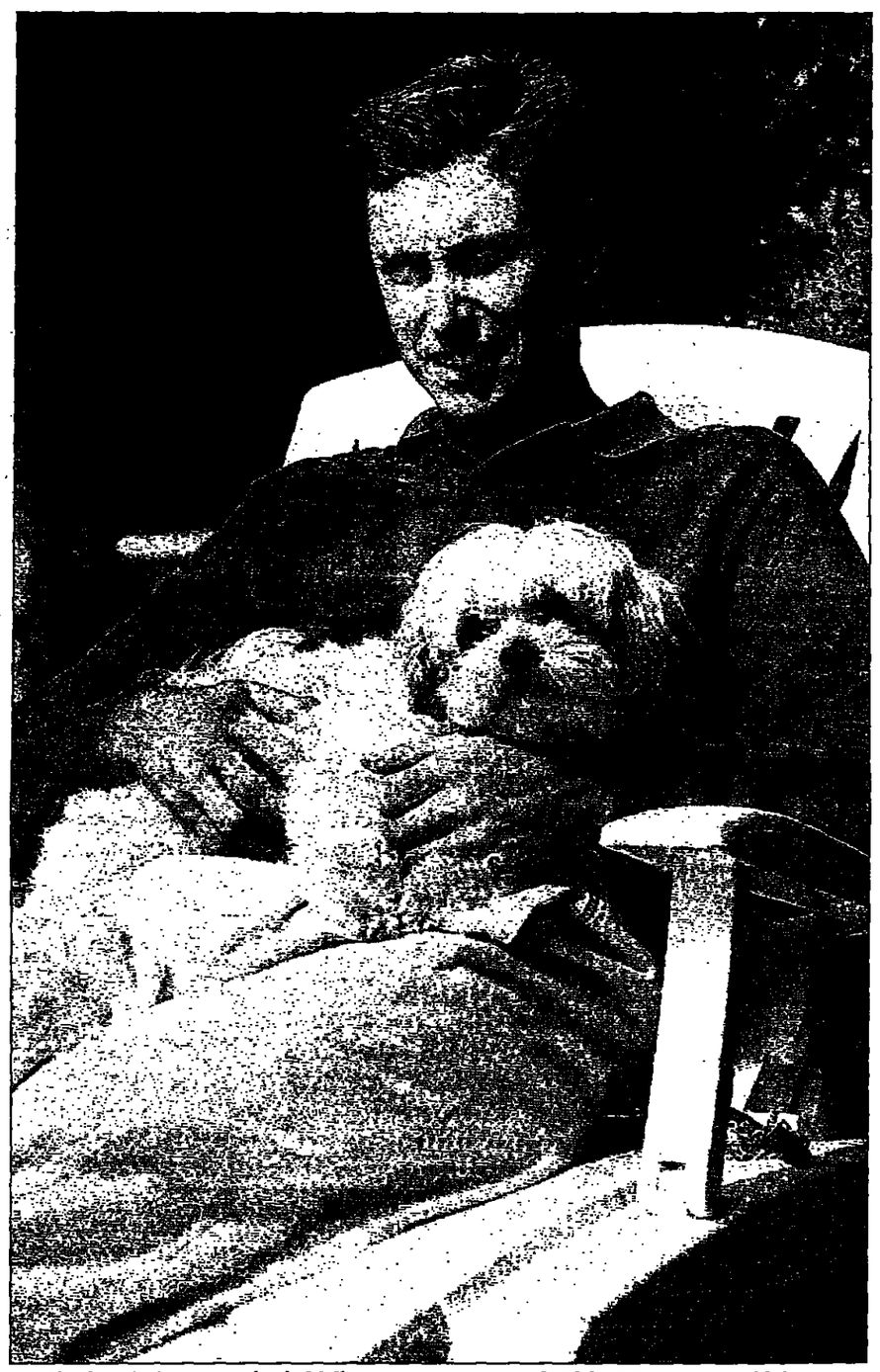
A further financial twist is added because if Allenby does not play in Spain then he will almost certainly be overtaken on the ranking list and forfeit at least another £50,000, which would be paid by his own sponsors for finishing the year in Europe's top three.

"It's a unique situation but the rules are specific and they state that for a player to earn his bonus he simply has to play," Andrew Ramsey, Allenby's manager, said. "Robert believes very strongly that after three victories in Europe this year, and having committed himself to the European Tour again in 1997, that he is entitled to this bonus so I have re-entered him for the Volvo Masters.

"He can walk around OK at present, but he has been told by doctors not to touch a golf club and his earliest return to tournament play was originally set for the Australian Open at the end of November."

Allenby's case was discussed by the Tour players' committee last weekend but, though sympathetic, his colleagues decided against popping a cheque in the post. "It's tough but the rules are very clear and he cannot be made an exception. If he now chooses to turn up and just hit one shot that's up to him," one committee member said.

With so much money at stake, this appears to be exactly what the Australian is contemplating. At least he will not need to suffer through practice. After all, hitting a ball off a tee with a putter is a task well within the compass of even the most lacklustre of weekend hackers, never mind a golferranked the 31st best player in the world.



Allenby, who is recuperating in Melbourne, must appear at the Volvo Masters to earn his bonus

CRICKET

Australia fall prey to India's spinners

By Our Sports Staff

ANIL KUMBLE, Sunil Joshi and Aashish Kapoor, the India spin bowlers, exploited a dry and cracked pitch to dismiss Australia for 182 on the first day of the one-off Test match in New Delhi yesterday. India were 57 for one at the close after losing Vikram Rathore for five when he was caught by Ricky Ponting at mid-wicket off Paul Reiffel.

Kumble, the leg spinner, took four for 63, Joshi, the left-arm spinner, two for 36, and Kapoor two for 30 with his off breaks, as Australia collapsed from 81 for one. Venkatesh Prasad, the fast bowler, made the initial breakthrough after Australia had won the toss and decided to bat on a pitch that was expected to help the slow bowlers. Prasad dismissed Mark Taylor, the Australia captain, leg-before for 27, and Ponting was yorked by Kapoor for 14 in the last over before lunch.

Scoreboard 46

The dismissal of Ponting marked the start of a decline in which Australia's last nine wickets tumbled for 101. Michael Slater, the top scorer, was caught and bowled by Kumble for 44, made in 130 minutes off 96 deliveries and including six fours, and Steve Waugh was caught behind for nought by a fumbling Nayan Mongia off an inside edge.

Mark Waugh and Michael Bevan briefly checked the slide by adding 49 for the fifth wicket before Bevan, playing across the line, was trapped leg-before by Joshi for 26. Waugh also made 26 before falling to Joshi, and Kumble then polished off the lower order.

India started slowly, with Mongia struggling for 40 minutes before hitting the first four of the innings. He was unbeaten on 26 at the close. By contrast, Sourav Ganguly, the left-handed batsman, who was playing his third Test after scoring a century in each of his first two in England this summer, struck four fours in his unbeaten 19.

India had brought in David Johnson, the medium-fast bowler, in place of Javagal Srinath, who was declared unfit with a stiff shoulder.

Johnson, 23, is of Anglo-Indian parentage, and toured Sri Lanka and Canada with the India team for one-day games this year.

Geoff Marsh, the Australia coach, said: "We did play a couple of loose strokes but the Indian spinners bowled extremely well. We'd have liked to score 50 or 60 more runs but the ball's turning and it's keeping up and down. We are very much in the game."

Disqualification costs Torrance a Ryder Cup bonus

By Our Sports Staff

SAM TORRANCE was disqualified from the Oki Pro-Am golf tournament in Madrid yesterday when he failed to turn up on time for the PGA European Tour event.

The Scot, 43, who was hoping to collect Ryder Cup points with most of the leading European players competing in the Dunhill Cup this week, was due to go out second on the La Moraleja One course with Manuel Ballesteros. Severiano's brother, but slept in at his Madrid hotel.

Torrance had only just returned from Korea, where he finished third in a tournament last week, and may have had difficulty adjusting to the time difference.

Andrew Barnett, of Wales, the first reserve, was on the course before the start of play and was called in to take Torrance's place.

Andrew Sherborne, whose two European Tour victories were in the Spanish capital, made a good start yesterday, returning a round of 67, five under par, to hold second place with Miguel Martin, of Spain, whose compatriot, Pedro Linhart, leads by two shots.

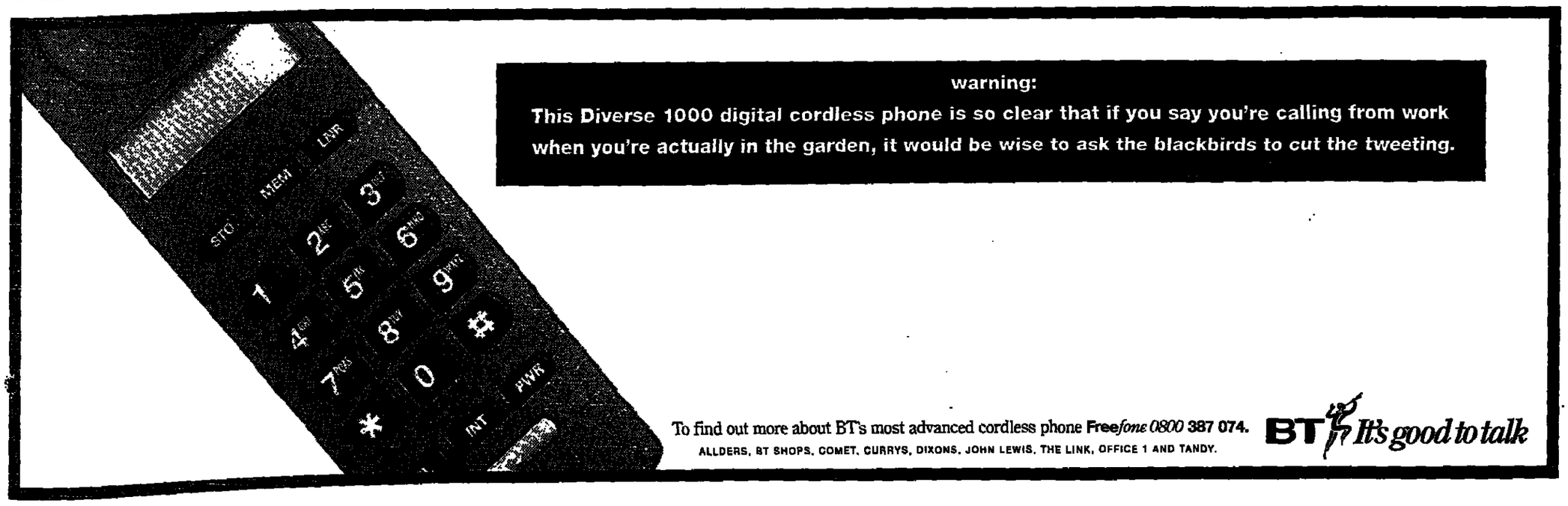
Severiano Ballesteros recorded a 72 and was none too pleased to learn that the leaderboard was showing his score as 70, while Tom Kite, of the United States, recorded a round of 71, spoilt by bogeys at the last two holes.

The 120 professionals in the field will play one round each on the two La Moraleja courses and, for the first 36 holes, will have an amateur partner in a pro-am event. The professional scores will count towards the Tour tournament and the leading 65 after two rounds will play in the last two rounds.

Trish Johnson and Joanne Morley, of Great Britain, will be seeking their second European titles of the season in the 54-hole French Open, which begins in Arras today.

Johnson won the European Open last month and last week was successful in the LPGA Fieldcrest Cannon Classic as Morley completed a maiden Tour victory in the German Open in Hamburg. Their biggest challenge is expected to come from their Solheim Cup team-mates, Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, from France, and Lisa Hackney.

Hackney won the Welsh Open last May but de Lorenzi has yet to win this season despite ten top-ten finishes in 12 tournaments.



Worry not, there's always Shearer

LYNNE TRUSS



Kicking and Screaming

A friend of mine has an interesting global theory of weight loss: that you can lose weight, but someone else gets it. "Trust me," she says, "it's got to go *somewhere*."

I was reminded of this interesting transference idea (which explains a lot, actually) yesterday morning, when the burden of international football anxiety carried over from the night before proved so heavy I could hardly get out of bed. The displaced anguish of 75,000 cheering, flag-waving England fans still filled my head like a blizzard, mixed with such hubristic chants as "You're not singing any more" and "There's only one Stuart Pearce". Not enough overt worrying had gone on in this stadium, I felt, so I undertook the lot. People have always said I "worried for England", incidentally, but somehow I *never expected to do it literally*.

The worrying started unnecessarily, in fact, on Tuesday night. Let's call it a warm-up. Flicking proudly through my new cable channels at 10pm, I found an arresting picture and stopped. Hey, a line-up of England footballers on a big field in an empty stadium, muttering the usual "Hello mum" to "God Save the Queen". That's *odd, I thought, glancing* nervously at the date on the newspaper. That's tomorrow, surely?

Unaware of the convention of under-21 internationals, I cast an anxious eye across the room to my precious Wembley ticket (which had cost £28) and experienced a sort of icy grip at the back of my neck, while a series of panic-thoughts leapfrogged each other and I stopped breathing. "There's nobody there! They've got the day wrong! What's going on? Those players are complete unknowns! Glenn Hoddle has gone mad!"

So when the man next to me at Wembley on Wednesday night shouted encouragingly in my ear, "You ought to let yourself go," during the eventful three-goal first half, I could only smile weakly and put my head back in my hand. I was the designated worrier, admittedly, but a strange thing had definitely happened to the pitch, especially after that early Polish goal: it had somehow tipped up at one end, so that red-suited Poles could roll downhill like gob-stoppers on a tray, while anyone in a white shirt travelling the other way was forced to walk and puff, and carry a big stick.

"Why won't they run?" I kept asking aloud. "Run, boys, run!" I developed an impatient gesture, using the back of the hand, trying to waft them. But despite some quite heroic ambulatory efforts (two resulting in snatched goals from Shearer), the force of gravity dragged them back downhill, with the result that so much action took place around Seaman's goal (the end I was sitting) I'm quite sure that at one time the Polish goalkeeper was reading a magazine.

'Seaman's goal was so busy, Poland's goalkeeper was reading a magazine'

The sense of occasion was faultless, and the final result was of course a blessed relief, but the weakness of the England defence was ghastly to behold, like seeing an injured zebra in a wildlife film dragging its hind quarters while gathering hyenas smack their lips and laugh. Knowing not much about football tactics, I thought it might be better in the circumstances to give defence up as a bad job and get everybody attacking, but evidently that's not how it's done. The bloke next to me blamed Gary Neville, which seemed reasonable. *I've never warmed* to him myself. Meanwhile, the bloke's friend called for Platt to be played ("Get Platty"), which encouraged me considerably, since that's what I always say, too.

Would a few drinks beforehand have helped? I'm talking about the players. While I tirelessly wafted them up the pitch in the first half ("Go, go!"), and beckoned them furiously ("This way! This way!") in the second, I kept thinking of my new friend's advice about letting yourself go. "You ought to let yourselves go," I *wanted to yell*, but ironically I was too inhibited. Only in the fabulously exciting final minutes did the England side seem to warm up and enjoy themselves. They would get the ball, break ranks, and *run*.

McManaman and Pearce seemed to be the heroes of the night. Perhaps it's easy for a novice to spot what McManaman is doing (he races like stink), but the crowd loves him too. The big *shout of "Yes"* goes up for him, just as it goes up for Shearer and Gascoigne. And he is not (in a phrase my Nan used to use) backward in coming forward, which on Wednesday was a breath of fresh air. Apparently our defence was so weak because Poland had cunningly tricked us. "No, we will not be trying to score goals," they announced beforehand, with their crossed fingers hidden behind their backs. "Goals are overrated, in our opinion." And we fell for it. Good grief.

On a more cheerful note, my Euro 96 pager was reactivated unexpectedly on Tuesday morning and scared the living daylights out of me. I heard its loud buzz from the mantelpiece, and jumped in the air. But the bliss of reunion was a great comfort. My little friend! I took it to the match and it kept me up with the English goals, but not the Polish, which was a bit remiss, but considerate. I feel we have a very special bond, that pager and me. I feel it would say "Hey, let yourself go, everybody," if it could.

ROSS KINNAIRD / ALLSPORT



Shearer's two goals not only denied Poland, but they almost defied gravity

RADIO CHOICE

Lord of the fisticuffs

Readings from the Archives: Billy the Kid. *Radio 3, 8.15pm.*

Recorded nine years after he wrote *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding's talk could more aptly have been called Lord of the Flying Fists. It is about his first days at school. Angelic-looking he might have been, with hair like a field of ripe corn, and eyes like cornflowers, but he was a fighting machine. School meant punches on the nose, delivered between lessons. Achilles and Lancelot gave him the desire to be a bruiser, not a sense of human nobility. *Billy the Kid* charts the unexpected process by which, after their bellicose beginning, William Golding's schooldays "seemed likely to come to a full stop from sheer excess of charity".

Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*

There are passages in the closing minutes of several Vaughan Williams works so exquisitely written that they briefly rob me of the power of speech. One comes at the end of *The Lark Ascending*. Another comes tonight in the last few bars of *Serenade to Music*, inspired by the Lorenzo and Jessica love scene from *The Merchant of Venice* ("How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank"). If you *thought* there was already music enough in Shakespeare's words, just tune in tonight. The recording is not, alas, the famous performance with Isobel Baillie in the choral cast of 16, but the very acceptable 1969 recording with Norma Burrowes, and Boult conducting.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 6.30am Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 7.00 Essential Selection, with Pete Tong. Includes at 9.30 the Friday Night Hot Mix 10.00 One in the Jungle 12.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 3.00am Annie Nightingale 5.00 Charlie Jordan

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy, incl 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Anne Robinson 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Alex Lester 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Mad about Musicals 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. Live from North Wales Theatre 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 Sheridan Morley 12.05am Charles Nove, incl 1.30 Pause for Thought

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breakfast Programme incl at 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Brian Hayes, incl 10.35 News from Europe 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl 12.35pm Moneycheck, with Philippa Lamb 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, incl 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra, with David McNeil 7.35 Parkinson on Sport 8.30 Friday Sport, with Robin Bailey. Includes a review of the week's European football action 10.05 Paper Talk, with Jay Rayner and Brian Alexander 11.00 Night Extra, with David McNeil 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night, with Richard Dellyn

TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Anna Raeburn 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Drivetime 7.00 Sportszone 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour 5.30am Europe Today 5.45 Folk Routes 6.30 Europe Today 6.45 Going Solo 6.50 The Insider's Guide 7.15 World Today 7.30 Bhangra Beat 8.15 Off the Shelf: *Heatwave* 8.30 Trip to Death and Back 9.15 Music Review 9.45 Soundbyte 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Focus on Faith 10.45 Sport 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf 12.30pm Meridian 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Science in Action 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News in German 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 6.10 World Today 6.25 Spotlight 6.30 News in German 7.30 Focus on Faith 9.01 Outlook 9.25 Words of Faith 9.30 Multitrack 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 People and Politics 11.30 The World Today 11.45 Sport 12.10am Spotlight 12.15 *The Insider's Guide* 12.25 Book Choice 12.30 Multitrack 1.30 Seven Days 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Outlook 2.55 Words of Faith 3.30 Meridian (Live) 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 The Vintage Chart Show

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto: Villa-Lobos (Guitar Concerto) 3.00 Nick Bailey 6.00 Classic Newsnight, with Jane Markham 8.30 Sonata 7.00 Classic Showcase 8.00 Evening Concert. See Choice 10.00 Michael Mappin, incl at 11.00 Friday Live 1.00am Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Horne 7.00 Paul Coyte (FM) / (AM) Robin Banks 10.00 Alan Freeman 12.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00am Howard Pearce

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Merbecke (Domine Jhesu Christe) 6.30 Building a Library. Best of the Bunch, Ravel's Piano Trio 7.05 Bizet (L'Amour est un Oiseau Rebelle, Carmen Act 1); Bruch (Schön Ellen) 9.00 **Morning Collection.** Includes Saint-Saëns (Overture: Spartacus); Mozart (Piano Trio in G, K564); Weber (Rondo Brillante in E flat, Op 62) 10.00 **Musical Encounters.** Includes Jacques Mangeant (Jean de Nivelle); Wallace (Symphonic Poem No 3: Sister Helen); Holkkanen (Tango for Marsha); Bach (Sheep May Safely Graze, BWV208); Chopin (Etudes, Op 25 No 1 in A flat, No 2 in F minor, No 6 in G sharp minor, No 12 in C minor) 12.00 **Composer of the Week: Smetana** 1.00pm **News; Chamber Music from Manchester.** Michael George, bass, John Constable, piano Schumann (Five Songs, Op 40); Ibert (Quatre Chansons de Don Quichotte); Dutilleux (Four Melodies); Head (Over the Rim of the Moon); Strauss (Wie Sollten wir Geheim Sie Halten) 2.00 **Quattro Invenzioni,** by Gian Francesco Malipiero 2.15 **Music Restored** 3.00 **Mining the Archive.** Schnittke (Symphony No 2, St Florian); Rawsthorne (Concerto for two pianos); Tippett (The Vision of St Augustine) *5.00* **Music Machine: Guitars** 5.15 **In Tune,** with Mairi Nicholson, including Berlioz (Overture: Benvenuto Cellini); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in F sharp minor, BWV859); Mozart (Sinfonia Concertante in E flat, K364 *7.30* **BBC National Orchestra of Wales.** Live from the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea. Conductor Mariss Jansons, Howard Shelley, piano. Beethoven (Overture: Egmont); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 22 in E flat, K482 8.15 Readings from the Archives: Billy the Kid. See Choice 8.36 Concert, part 2. Schubert (Symphony No 9) 9.35 **Third Words** 10.00 **Hear and Now.** The first concert in a short season from Institute of Contemporary Artsin London 12.00 **Composer of the Week: Steve Reich at 60** (r) 1.00am **Through the Night,** with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Changing Trains. Steven Norris, MP, former Transport Minister, reads his memoirs (5/5) 8.58 Weather 9.00 **News** 9.05 **Desert Island Discs.** Scientist Professor Lewis Wolpert (r) 9.45 **Feedback.** Chris Dunkley airs listeners' views 10.00 **Act of Worship (LW)** 10.15 **On This Day (LW)** 10.00 **News; At the Shoulder of History (FM)** (2/6) 10.30 **Woman's Hour: 50th Anniversary Week.** 11.30 **The Natural History Programme** 12.00 **News; You and Yours** 12.25pm **The Food Programme,** with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 **The World at One** 1.40 **The Archers** 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 **News; The Classic Serial: Dombey and Son** (6/6) (r) 3.00 **News; The Afternoon Shift** 4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope** 4.45 **Short Story: Pedestrian** 5.00 **PM,** with Chris Lowe in Bournemouth 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 **Six O'Clock News** 6.30 **Going Places** 7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers** 7.20 **Pick of the Week** 8.05 **Any Questions?** Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Warminster, Wiltshire, by Paddy Ashdown, MP; Viscount Cranborne; Bridget Rosewell and Peter Mandelson, MP 8.50 **Speaking as an Expert** 9.15 **Letter From America** 9.30 **Kaleidoscope Feature** (r) 9.59 Weather 10.00 **The World Tonight,** with Jeremy Harris 10.45 **Book at Bedtime: I'm Here I Think, Where Are You?** Timothy West reads letters written to his wife Prunella Scales (5/5) (r) 11.00 **Week Ending.** The topical comedy sketch show starring Sally Grace and Jon Glover, Julie Gibbs and John Duttine 11.25 **Tea Junction,** with Patrick Hannan and guests 11.45 **Coupons and Nylons: The Underside of VE Day.** With Frank Fraser 12.00 **News,** incl 12.27am Weather 12.30 **The Late Book: Two Girls, One a Gazelle,** by Barbara Mercer. Read by Joanna Monro (2/2) (r) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 **As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Championship series: New York 5 Baltimore 4 (in 11innings) *(New York lead best-of-seven series 1-0)*

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Championship series: Atlanta 4 St Louis 2 *(Atlanta lead 1-0)*.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Sheffield 79 Chester 80, Leicester 90 Worthing 88, Crystal Palace 67 Manchester 92

EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Group B: Bologna (It) 82 Alba Berlin (Ger) 72. Group C: Panathinaikos (Gr) 72 Split (Cro) 50; Villeurbanne (Fr) 70 Ljubljana (Slovenia) 69; Barcelona (Sp) 90 Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 71 Group D: Caja San Fernando (Sp) 91 Dynamo Moscow (Russ) 61.

CRICKET

Test match

India v Australia

DELHI (Australia won toss): India, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 125 runs behind Australia

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M J Slater c and b Kumble	44
*M A Taylor lbw b Prasad	27
R T Ponting b Kapoor	14
M E Waugh c Dravid b Joshi	26
S R Waugh c Mongia b Kapoor	0
M G Bevan lbw b Joshi	26
†I A Healy b Kumble	17
B J Hogg c Rathore b Kumble	1
P R Reiffel c Dravid b Kumble	7
P E McIntyre not out	6
G D McGrath run out	6
Extras (b 4, lb 3, nb 1)	8
Total	182

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-47, 2-81, 3-93, 4-94, *5-143, 6-144, 7-147, 8-169, 9-170.*

BOWLING: Prasad 12-4-34-1; Johnson 4-1-12-0; Joshi 23-7-36-2; Kumble 24-7-63-4; Kapoor 10-3-30-2.

INDIA: First Innings

V S Rathore c Ponting b Reiffel	5
†N R Mongia not out	26
S C Ganguly not out	19
Extras (b 4, nb 3)	7
Total (1 wkt)	57

*S R Tendulkar, M Azharuddin, R S Dravid, S Joshi, A R Kapoor, A Kumble, B K V Prasad and D Johnson to bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-13.

BOWLING: McGrath 4-0-8-0; Reiffel 6-2-13-1; S R Waugh 4-1-13-0; McIntyre 4-1-*10-0*; Hogg *3-1-9-0.*

Umpires: P Willey (England) and S Venkataraghavan (India).

CYCLING

LUGANO, Switzerland: World road-race championships: Men: Individual time-trial *(40.4km)*: 1, A Zülle *(Switz)* 48min 13sec; 2, C Boardman (GB) at 39sec; 3, T Rominger (Switz) 41; 4, D Nardello (It) 1min 1sec; 5, A Peron (It) 1:34; 6, U Peschel (Ger) 1:39; 24, C Newton (GB) 5:26.

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

WORLD CUP: European qualifying group one: Denmark 2 Greece 1 (in Copenhagen) Group two: England 2 Poland 1 *(at Wembley)*; Italy 1 Georgia 0 (in Perugia). Group three: Norway 3 Hungary 0 (in Oslo). Group four: Sweden 0 Austria 1 (in Stockholm); Belarus 1 Latvia 1 (in Minsk). *Group five: Israel 7 Russia 1 (in Tel Aviv).* Group six: Czech Republic 0 Spain 0 (in Prague). Group seven: San Marino 0 Belgium 3 (in Serravalle). Group eight: Iceland 0 Romania 4 (in Reykjavik); Ireland 3 Macedonia 0; Lithuania 2 Liechtenstein 1 (in Vilnius). Group nine: Armenia 1 Germany 5 (in Erevan). South American zone: Ecuador 0 Colombia 1 (in Quito); *Paraguay 2 Chile 1 (in Asunción)*; Venezuela 2 Argentina 5 (in San Cristobal).

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: France 4 Turkey 0 (in Paris).

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group two: Italy 6 Georgia 0 (in Arezzo). Group eight: Iceland 2 Romania 3. (in Reykjavik). Group nine: Armenia 0 Germany 1 (in Abovian).

UEFA UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING MATCH: Finland 2 Northern Ireland 0 (at Saunthorpe).

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Alfreton 2 Witton 1; Boston 1 Guiseley 1; Colwyn Bay 1 Winsford 2; Knowsley 1 Accrington Stanley 1. First division: Bradford Park Avenue 1 Whitley Bay 2; Farsley Celtic 3 Harrogate Town 0.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Cemaes Bay 3 Holywell 3; Cwmbran 2 Briton Ferry 3; Newtown 1 Welshpool 0; Ton Pentre 0 Inter Cable-Tel 3; Caernarfon 3 Conwy 3.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City 4 Oxford Utd 1; Norwich 1 Arsenal 1; Portsmouth 2 Crystal Palace 0; West Ham 0 Swansea 0; Watford 4 Bournemouth 3

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Tranmere 1 Birmingham 2. First division: Aston Villa 1 Coventry 0; Huddersfield 0 West Bromwich 0; Sunderland 3 Leicester 3; Wolverhampton 6 Blackpool 0. Second division: Burnley 5 Mansfield 3; York 1 Barnsley 1. Postponed: Wrexham v Carlisle. Third division: Bury 1 Rochdale 2; Lincoln 0 Doncaster 0; Wigan 3 Scunthorpe 1.

FA CARLSBERG VASE: Second qualifying round replay: London Colney 2 Langford 0.

FA YOUTH CUP: First qualifying round: Burton 3 Redditch 1; Aveley 2 Chesham 2; Margate 1 Gravesend and Northfleet 6, Bristol Rovers 6 Worcester 0; Havant 2 Eastleigh 3. First qualifying round replays: Viking Sports 4 Farnborough 0, Sutton United 9 Staines 2.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Gateshead 3 Crook 1; Murton 5 Stockton 2.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Brockenhurst 0 Wimborne Town 6; Petersfield 0 Bemerton Heath Harl 2.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Sheffield 1 Denaby 2.

UHLSPORT KNOCKOUT CUP: First round: Kempston 0 Ford Sports 1.

WELSH CUP: Second round: Hoover Sports 1 Maesteg Park 2.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Feyenoord 3 Groningen 1; Ajax 3 Willem II Tilburg 0; AZ67 Alkmaar 1 Sparta Rotterdam 2; Vitesse Arnhem 1 Roda JC Kerkrade 2; NEC Nijmegen 1 Heerenveen 1; RKC Waalwijk 0 Volendam 0; NAC Breda 3 Utrecht 3.

SWISS LEAGUE: Basle 1 Young Boys BSC 1; Grasshoppers 0 SC Aarau 0; Neuchâtel Xamax 1 Lucerne 1, Servette 1 Lausanne 2. FC Sion 1 Lugano 0; St Gallen 1 FC Zurich 0.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Mid Wiltshire 4 Alan Nedd 2; North Sussex 1 Sutton 0; South Tyneside 4 Derwentside 0. Midlands Premier League: Worcestershire 4 Warwickshire 2. Inter-county Under-14 match: Hertfordshire 3 Middlesex 2.

GOLF

MADRID: Old Pro-Am: Early first-round scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 65: P Linhart (Sp). 67 A Sherborne, M Martin (Sp). 68: J Quiros (Sp), S Luna (Sp), M Gronberg (Swe). 69: J-M Canizares (Sp), T Bjorn (Den), M Mackenzie, D Higgins, D Gilford. 70: S Webster, R Boxall, M Jonzon (Swe), P Mitchell, *Y Beamonte (Sp), R Drummond.*

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Detroit 2 Edmonton 0; Montreal 6 Los Angeles 3; Ottawa 3 New York Islanders 3 (OT); Chicago 0 Anaheim 2; Calgary 1 St Louis 3; Vancouver 1 Buffalo 2.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Tour matches

Lion Red Cup XIII 22 Great Britain XIII 22

Lion Red Cup XIII: Tries: Barlow, Hughes, Mellalieu-Brown. Goals: Lythe 5. Great Britain XIII: Tries: Cunningham, Powell, Spruce, Sullivan. Goals: Harris 3. Att: 3,000. *(at Carlaw Park, Auckland)*

Auckland U-19 16 GB Academy 48 *(at Carlaw Park, Auckland)*

RUGBY UNION

ANGLO-WELSH CUP: Pool 1B: Cardiff 24 Harlequins 53.

SRU UNDER-21 INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP: South of Scotland 18 Glasgow 40; Edinburgh 23 North and Mid Scotland 32 (both at Murrayfield).

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University 20 Wasps 36; London Irish 48 Loughborough Students 18; Oxford University 44 Combined London Old Boys 13

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Duke of York's 11 Sutton Valence 15; King Edward VI, Southampton 59 Ryde 0; Royal School, Dungannon 41 Regent House 0. Daily Mail Under-18 Cup: Maidstone GS 10 St George's, Weybridge 20. Devon Cup: Kelly Coll 18 West Buckland 18.

SNOOKER

MARSASKALA, Malta: Rothmans Grand Prix: Quarter-finals: N Bond (Eng) bt J Swail (N Ire) 5-2; M Williams (Wales) bt K Doherty (Scot) 5-2.

SPEEDWAY

SPEEDWAY STAR KNOCKOUT CUP: Final, first leg: Wolverhampton 58 (P Karlsson 14, M Karlsson 12, R Correy 12) Peterborough 38 (J Crump 13, R Sullivan 10).

HULL: Chris Prime Memorial Junior Championship Trophy: 1, P Scully (Linlithgow) 14pts; 2, L Dickin (Hull) 14; 3, W Beveridge (Berwick) 13; 4, R Enson (Berwick) 13.

POOLE: J T Commercials Pirates Battle of Britain Junior Trophy: 1, M Wills (Ryde); 2, L Richardson (Poole); 3, D Mason (London); 4, B Eldridge (Eastbourne) tell.

SQUASH

PETALING JAYA, Malaysia: Perrier Women's world Open: Third round: M Martin (Aus) bt T Shenton (Eng) 9-1, 9-0, 9-0; L Irving (Aus) bt M Bell (Aus) 9-3, 9-3, 9-6; C Jackman (Eng) bt C Nitch (SA) 9-3, 9-5, 9-0; S Schone (Ger) bt L Marsh (NZ) 10-8, 2-9, 9-5, 7-9, 9-2; S Wright (Eng) bt F Gauwas (Eng) 6-9, 9-2, 9-1, 9-0; S Horner (Eng) bt R Cooper (Aus) 9-6, 4-9, 10-9, 9-4; C Owens (Aus) bt L Charmen (Eng) 9-4, 9-1, 9-5; S FitzGerald (Aus) bt P Beams (NZ) 9-3, 9-3, 9-2.

DOHA: Men's tournament: Final: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt R Eyles (Aus) 15-10, 15-7, 13-15, 15-10.

TENNIS

SHEFFIELD: LTA Autumn satellite tournament *(GB unless stated)*: Semi-finals: R Koenig (SA) bt C Wilkinson 7-6, 6-3; O Fukarek (Cz) bt C Baecher 3-1 ret.

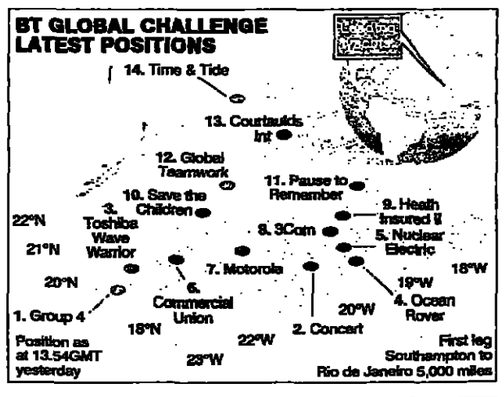
VIENNA: Men's tournament: First round: T Muster (Austria) bt G Pozzi (It) 7-5, 6-4; D Vacek (Cz) bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 7-6, 6-3; B Becker (Ger) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 7-6, 3-6, 6-4. Second round: M Rosset (Switz) bt A Medvedev (Ukr) 7-6, 4-6, 6-4; T Martin (US) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 6-3, 6-4; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt O Camporese (It) 6-4, 6-3; A Boetsch (Fr) bt D Vacek (Cz) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

PEKING: Men's tournament: First round: H Dreekmann (Ger) bt J Stark (US) 7-6, 4-6, 7-6.

FILDERSTADT: Women's tournament: Second round: C Martinez (Sp) bt A Carlsson (Swe) 7-5, 6-4; J Wiesner (Austria) bt K Habsudova (Slovakia) 1-6, 6-4, 6-2; M Hingis (Switz) bt A Coetzer (SA) 6-1, 7-5; A Huber (Ger) bt B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) 6-1, 6-4; I Majoli (Cro) bt B Rittner (Ger) 6-4, 6-3; L Davenport (US) bt N Medvedeva (Ukr) 6-1, 6-3.

SURABAYA, Indonesia: Women's tournament: Second round: N Miyagi (Japan) bt Sung Hee Park (S Kor) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; N Dechy (Fr) bt J Husarova (Slovakia) 7-5, 6-1; S Pitkowski (Fr) bt T Tanasugarn (Thai) 6-2, 1-6, 6-3; Shi-Ting Wang (Taiwan) bt M Seeki (Japan) 6-3, 6-2.

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS



IN BRIEF

Rusedski reaches last eight

GREG RUSEDSKI, the Great Britain tennis No 2 and world No 84, beat Jean-Philippe Fleurian, of France, 6-7, 7-6, 6-1 to reach the quarter-finals of the Peking Open yesterday. Rusedski will now meet Gustavo Kuerten, of Brazil, a player ranked 21 places below him, in the last eight.

☐ Chris Wilkinson, from Hampshire, won the Lawn Tennis Association overall circuit title despite losing 7-6, 6-3 in the semi-finals of the Autumn Satellite Masters in Sheffield to Robbie Koenig, of South Africa.

☐ **BASKETBALL:** Six England players employed by foreign clubs have been called up for the home European championship tie against Latvia at Leicester on October 30 after assuring Laszlo Nemeth, the national team coach, of their availability.

ENGLAND SQUAD: P Scantlebury (Thames Valley Tigers, captain), J Amaechi (Panathanaikos, Gr), S Bucknall (Aris, Gr), S Dunkley (Limoges, Fr), A Gardiner (Villeurbanne, Bel), D Hemmings (Trieste, It), I Whyte (Besançon, Fr), N Austin, C Brown (both London Towers), R Baker, P Scantlebury (both Crystal Palace), P Grainger (Manchester Giants), R Huggins, I McKinney, M Payne, J Swaine (all Sheffield Sharks), A Simms (Newcastle).

☐ **SPEEDWAY:** The sport in Britain is looking forward to a boom with up to six new tracks preparing to stage league racing in 1997. Prospective promoters at Newcastle, Newport (South Wales), St Austell and Clevedon (Bristol) have already been in contact with the sport's authorities expressing interest in entering sides in the Conference League next year.

☐ **MOTOR RACING:** Alessandro Nannini, the Italian driver whose right arm was severed and then sewn back on after a helicopter crash five years ago, is to test a Benetton-Renault Formula One car in Portugal next month.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

ACCAROID

(a) The name given to a resinous gum obtained from various Australian trees, especially the blackboy or grass-tree, used for preparing varnish, paper-size, etc. Etymology unknown. The blackboy gum and Botany Bay gum yield red and yellow varieties, respectively.

EXCLAVE

(a) A portion of territory separated from the country to which it politically belongs and entirely surrounded by alien dominions: seen from the viewpoint of the "home" country (as opposed to an enclave, the same portion of territory as viewed by the surrounding dominions). "New Towns, which are towns and not garden suburbs with odd shopping centres as urban exclaves and a trading estate along the railway."

CATANANCHE

(b) The name of a genus (*Catananche*) of herbs of the family Compositae with blue or yellow flowers. From the Latin *catananchē* a plant used in love potions, Greek *katanagkē* from *kata* down + *anágkē* compulsion. "A packet of seed of catananche which gave me a lovely group of lavender-blue daisy-like flowers in August."

EMMENTAL

(c) Or *Emmenthal*. The third best cheese in the world, after Roquefort and Gruyère (smaller holes). A Swiss cheese containing numerous holes. A toponym from *Emmental*, a region in Switzerland. "Cheese was made in in prehistoric times, and the craft has developed great heights of skill in the creation of such cheeses as English Stilton, Swiss Emmentaler and French Roquefort."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1, Rb6! Qxb6; 2, Qh8+ Kg6; 3, Bh5 checkmate.



BELFAST from	£59 return
BERGEN from	£145 return
BRUSSELS from	£85 return
DUBLIN from	£72 return
EDINBURGH from	£58 return
FRANKFURT from	£119 return
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It's a fair cop, guv, but is it blue enough?

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

First there was *NYPD Blue*. Or was it *Hill Street Blues* that kicked the whole thing off? Anyway, whichever pioneering American cop show deserves the credit, the BBC borrowed the camera work and the colour and brought us *Out of the Blue* — presumably after audience research showed that *Dixon of Dock Blue* was a non-starter.

Last night, ITV borrowed all that was left — the mood and the music — and brought back **Thief Takers** for a second series. It is still a terrible title (what, no blue?) but for two thirds of an enjoyable hour, the content bordered on the magnificent. This was no mean achievement given that the content also bordered on the extremely unpleasant.

We began, however, on a lighter note, with a new member of the cast, Amanda Pays as DS Anna Dryden. Hang on, Amanda Pays? Isn't she a fabulously beautiful Hollywood film star? Well up to a point. DI Copper, up to a point. Anyway, the upshot of Pays's return to Britain is that the latest recruit to the Flying Squad *is* er . . . fabulously beautiful.

This did not go unnoticed by her male colleagues who upheld the finest traditions of the police with much macho muttering, beginning with "she'll do" and deteriorating *rapidly from then on*. Dryden, aided and abetted by the equally good-looking DC Grace Harris (Pooky Quesnel), responded as only television policewomen can, by wearing a succession of ever tighter T-shirts. It may not solve the harassment problem, but it'll do wonders for the ratings.

Not that the ratings have much to worry about after last night's impressive return. Dryden established her credentials by rugby-tackling an escaping armed robber. So overcome with gratitude was Dalton (Robbie Gee), that he began singing like a canary with an extremely thick Jamaican accent. Sub-titles *might* have helped (I have the same problem with *Hamish Macbeth* sometimes) but I think the upshot was that a Manchester gang knew there was an undercover policeman waiting for them in London. DC Alan Oxford (Gary McDonald) was in very serious trouble.

The scenes between McDonald and Grant Masters, playing his captor and philosophising tormentor, were exceptionally strong, with Masters wringing maximum menace from his apparent role as a ruthless drug-dealer. Only later — when Roy Mitchell's script got just a bit too clever for its own good — did we discover that all was not what it threatened to be. A crusading assassin who leaves his finger-prints all over the place? Be serious.

Visually, this opening episode was in danger of looking almost too good — and I'm not talking about Amanda Pays again. *Interiors weren't interiors unless they* were moodily lit through a skylight or air vent, while what good were arrests at Heathrow if a Concorde wasn't taking off just a few feet overhead? There must have been cheers when that one came off but, as long as the rest of the series continues to mix style and substance to such polished effect, there will be more to come.

But nothing like the roar that will go up when the long hand of *the law finally feels the shoulder of* Cindy Beale. The question is, will it? In last night's **EastEnders** (BBC1) it was looking horribly as if her limp rag of a husband might get her off the hook. "I love Cindy and she loves me," he told the *wonderfully disbelieving DCI Mason* (Campbell Morrison). What I can't work out is how being shot in the stomach can have affected Ian's memory so badly.

The Walford whisky bottle, which in recent weeks has been *permanently glued to Phil's right* hand, has now passed to David Wicks. Given that his preferred form of stress relief is making a pass at one of his many former wives, this can only be seen as a positive step. He's in quite enough trouble as it is.

But what I want to know is when the police will take time off from searching for Ian's attacker to *launch a hunt for the real Grant* Mitchell. Making breakfast for *Tiffany, putting the word round* for Kath — even helping his beetroot-faced brother take the First Step — it's clear to anybody that's he been kidnapped and replaced by an impostor.

As I say, that is what I want to know. What I would like to have been, on the other hand, is a fly on the wall of Michael Grade's office when he watched the first instalment of **Desire** (Channel 4). Did he sit back and applaud or was there a long ghastly silence as he realised he had an absolute pup on his hands? I'm inclined — strongly inclined — to the latter.

This was the programme that was supposed to revolutionise fashion coverage on television. What it delivered was a charmless, snobbish 30-minute plug for the sort of fashion designers who *make millions out of* expensive scent and shouldn't have a television programme *to help them*.

It promised gossip. A breathless Sophie Anderton, whose exquisite eyebrows appear to have a mind of their own, revealed that "*Desire* predicts John Galliano is set to take over at Dior", which is about as new as chocolate being the new black. It promised fashion insights, which last night included what male models wear to casting sessions and debutantes wear to Queen Charlotte's Ball. Nice to see the producers taking Channel 4's *remit to provide broadcasting* for minorities so seriously.

As for the much-vaunted controversy, we got Johnny Moke, the shoe designer, whose particular hobby horse was . . . the appalling state of the nation's footwear. Well, knock me down with a feather boa, there was a surprise.

6.00am Business Breakfast (73140)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (94481)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (5546256)
9.20 Style Challenge (s) (2431091) **9.45 Kilroy** (s) (2261072) **10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (82091)
11.00 News, Regional News and weather (Ceefax) (6845091)
11.05 Conference Live. Today sees John Major deliver his speech to the delegates *including news at* **12.00** (s) (93385898)
1.00pm News and weather (Ceefax) (14898) **1.30 Regional News** (57397695)
1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (44354817) **2.00 Call My Bluff** (s) (4362) **2.30 Peter Seabrook's Gardening Week** (s) (879) **3.00 Incognito** (s) (6099)
3.30 ***The Animals of Farthing Wood*** *(r)* (Ceefax) (s) (7398508) **3.55 Dear Mr Barker** (s) (9694633) **4.10 *The Real* Adventures of Jonny Quest** (s) (Ceefax) (6068695) **4.35 Grange Hill** *(r)* (Ceefax) (s) (2935148) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (2331091) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (6437695)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (154966)
6.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (506)
6.30 Regional news magazines (188)
7.00 ***Muppets Tonight!*** *Frantic family entertainment. The show's special guest this evening is Whoopi Goldberg (Ceefax) (s)* (438411)
7.25 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (696324)
8.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel surprises another personality with the Big Red Book (Ceefax) (s) (1898)
8.30 Auntie's TV Favourites: Drama. *The run-up to the BBC's TV60 Awards in* November continues with a look back at *some of the channel's outstanding* performers and drama series that have *appeared over the years. Viewers are* given a chance to vote for their own personal preferences (Ceefax) (s) (3/5) (3633)
9.00 News, Regional News *and weather* (Ceefax) (6072)
9.30 CHOICE **Dangerfield: Eden** (Ceefax) (s) (673701)
10.20 CHOICE **The Nation's Favourite Poems.** Presented by Griff Rhys Jones (Ceefax) (755573)
10.45 FILM: A Cry in the Dark (1988). Based on the true story of Lindy Chamberlain, the Australian woman who was accused of murder despite her claims that her baby was dragged off by a dingo. Strong performances from Sam Neill and Meryl Streep are the highlights of the film. Directed by Fred Schepisi (s) (25560072)
12.40 FILM: Dr Terror Presents: Devils of Darkness (1965). Supernatural chiller about a writer and some friends who encounter a satanic cult while on holiday in Brittany. When two members of his group are mysteriously killed, the writer becomes unwittingly involved with the leader of the cult, who turns out to be a 400-year-old vampire. With William Sylvester, Hubert Noël and Tracy Reed. Directed by Lance Comfort (1068657)
2.10am-2.15 Weather (8223541)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme *listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers*, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ ™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), *Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer* are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY 1

7.00am Undun (57527) **9.00** Press Your Luck (50965416) **9.20** Jeopardy! (2186633) **9.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (3504633) **10.40** Real TV (2422614) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (3622017) **12.00** Geraldo (34966) **1.00pm** 1 to 3 (24701) **3.00** Jenny Jones (36850) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (55985) **5.00** Quantum Leap (5904) **6.00** The New Adventures of Superman (23850) **7.00** LAPD (8633) **7.30** M*A*S*H (9458) **8.00** Just Judging (2053) **8.30** Coppers (1158) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (95091) **10.00** Quantum Leap (66850) **11.00** *The* New Adventures of Superman (60091) **12.00** Midnight Caller (95170) **1.00am** LAPD (85560) **1.30** Real TV (82198) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (64541)

SKY 2

7.00pm Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (4218275) **8.00** Nowhere Man (4294895) **9.00** Models Inc (4214459) **10.00** Fire (4217546) **11.00** Late Show, with David Letterman (1327324) **12.00 FILM: Nosferatu the Vampyre** (2044638) **2.00am** Hit Mix Long Play (6032034)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Anne of Green Gables (1934) (24917) **7.30 Proudheart** (1993) (27804) **8.30 Tender Is the Night** (1961) (31027) **11.00pm Rhinestone** (1984) (31278) **1.00am** *Danny* **(1979)** (45879) **2.30 Maeshayne: Winner Takes All (1994)** (21701) **4.00** *Running Brave* **(1983)** (7508) **6.00 Car 54, Where Are You? (1994)** (76966) **8.00 La Séparation** (1994) (71411) **10.00 China Moon** (1994) (2511691) **11.40 Bullet in the Head** (1990) (44110527) **1.50am Deadly Vows** (1994) (7685370) **3.20-6.00 Accidental Meeting** (1993) (90220676)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

8.00am Chad Hanna (1940) (22459) **7.30 The Polar Bear King** (1992) (88922) **9.00 The Cardan** (1994) (35492) **10.00 My Family Treasure** (1993) (57817) **12.00** *The Pot Carriers* **(1962)** (16782) **2.00pm Holiday** (1937) (87072) **4.00 The Polar Bear King** (1992) (98650) **6.00 The Magic Bubble** (1992) (50701) **7.30 UK Top Ten** (21689) **8.00 Awake to Danger** (1995) (79053) **10.00 The Paper** (1994) (465275) **11.55 Mr Wonderful** (1993) (377986) **1.35am A Business Affair** (1993) (2502270) **3.20 Deep Red** (1994) (50273866) **4.50-6.00 The Garden** (1994) (7733812)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Matchmaker (1958) (19367459) **5.45 A Farewell to Arms** (1957) (91857879) **8.20 Mickey Spillane's More Than Murder** (1984) (22139985) **10.00 Nico** (1988) (916458) **11.45 The Panic in Needle Park** (1971) (183866) **1.35am The Diary of Anne Frank** (1959) (46713725) **4.25-5.45 Klondike Annie** (1936) (5540725)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Bonkers (4508099) **8.25** Mouse Tracks (5051184) **8.50** Darkwing Duck (5457546) **9.15** *Quack Attack* (9372576) **9.40** Aladdin (4257985) **10.05** Timon and Pumbaa (8352430) **10.30** Bonkers (45256) **10.55** Sing Me a Story (36508) **11.30** Lamb Chop (73527) **11.50** Muppet Babies (59546) **12.10** Adventures in Wonderland (25492) **12.35** Quack Attack (19121) **1.00** *Under the Umbrella Tree* (10850) **1.20** Fraggle Rock (49072) **1.50** Lamb Chop (77343) **2.15** Timon and Pumbaa (66324) **2.40** Aladdin (76614) **3.05** Darkwing Duck (6817) **3.30** Groundling Marsh (3966) **3.55** *Making of a Goofy Movie* (6868985) **4.25** Mouse Tracks (6847492) **4.50** Darkwing Duck (2134343) **5.15** Bonkers (2144072) **5.40** Timon and Pumbaa (9758350) **6.05** Aladdin (7168) **6.30** Ghostwriter (6782) **6.55** Crossbow (3695) **7.30 FILM: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** (63035) **8.00-10.00 FILM: Pathfinder** (57879)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am *Sky Sports Centre* (58689) **7.30** Wrestling — Action Zone (45324) **8.30** *Racing News* (14362) **9.00** Sky Sports Centre (26584) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (42633) **10.00** European Golf Alfred Dunhill Cup — Live (74816823) ***4.30pm*** *Gillette* World Sport Special (4546) **4.59** Sky Sports Centre (85108650) **5.00** Netbusters (6492) **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (21140) **7.00** European Golf (843140) **10.00** Sky Sports Centre (29072) **11.00** Hold the Back Page (80879) **12.00** Wrestling — Raw (46096) **1.00am** Sky Sports Centre (11096) **2.00-3.00** Hold the Back Page

SKY SPORTS 2

8.00pm Paris Rugby Sevens (81254111) **10.00** WWF — Raw (81445456) **11.00** Superstars (6269350) **12.30am-1.30** Cue Masters

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Paris Rugby Sevens Day 1 — Live (89852998) **7.00pm** Friday Night Football: Norwich City v Ipswich Town — Live (64311324) **10.00-12.00** Ford Scorpio Golf USA: Texas Open (27142527)

EUROSPORT

6.00am Formula 1 (57140) **7.00** Formula 1 (87966) **8.00** Motorcycling Magazine (17459) **8.30** Motors (52966) **9.30** Football (64275) **11.30** Formula 1 (39188) **12.30pm** Eurolun (48817) **1.00** Tennis — Live (7341459) **5.00** *Formula 1* (23506) **7.00** Truck Racing (22169) **8.00** Sumo (31817) **9.00** Formula 1 (11053) **10.00** Strength (14140) **11.00** Motorsports (58625) **12.00-12.30am** Pro Wrestling (34164) **4.00** *Formula 1 — Live* (25947) **5.00** *Formula 1*

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Runway (4146614) **6.30** Tickle on *the Turn* (16133053) **8.45** *Time for a Story* (80372701) **7.00** Allsorts (26158957) **7.15** Tickle on the Turn (68799904) **7.30** Catweazle (2337898) **8.00** Classic Coronation Street (9103072) **8.30** Runway (9102343) **9.00** *Families* (91936957) **9.30** Albion Market (1306072) **10.00** *What the Papers Say* (6589121) **10.20** The Day (2728275) **10.30** Nearest and Dearest (91988979) **11.00** Made in Heaven (2346546) **12.00** Scully (91134556) **12.30pm** Classic Coronation Street (1317188) **1.00** *Adam Smith* (2340952) **1.30** *Families* (1316459) **2.00** This Year, Next Year (21306956) **3.00** Nearest and Dearest (7120121) **3.30** What the Papers Say (88281343) **3.50** The Day (92483140) **4.00** Mapp and Lucia (53761508) **5.15** Families (66330530) **6.00** The Dustbinmen (9860891) **6.30** *Classic Coronation Street* (1560071) **7.00** Albion Market (7145430) **7.30** Scully (5260035) **8.00** Made in Heaven (2436527) **9.00** The Good Life Guide (35888998) **9.25** Classic Coronation Street (30600653) **10.00-11.00** XYY Man (24198850)
From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors

CHOICE

English Country Garden
BBC2, 8.30pm

It may be autumn in the real world but Rosemary Verey's series has moved on. We are in the spring, a season she likes for its uncertainty even if this means a splendid magnolia being browned by a late frost. Although Verey continues to offer tips that she hopes any of us might use, the thrust of her series continues to be the gardens of the rich, and in tonight's two cases, the famous. Elton John's multi-acre plot in Berkshire was designed and laid out by Verey, a perhaps unlikely meeting of a subversive rock star and a traditional Englishwoman. Among other things Verey created is a white garden in the image of Sissinghurst, but the red telephone box with its statue of Aphrodite inside is pure John. The other rich man's garden belongs to Lord Carrington, the former Foreign Secretary.

In Suspicious Circumstances
ITV, 9.00pm

Donning his familar overcoat and heavy spectacles, Edward Woodward rounds off the current series with stories of two men who were implicated in murders by innuendo rather than hard evidence and had their lives destroyed. Philip Yale Drew was an early American cowboy star who took to drink and spent his later career in the lower reaches of the British theatre. While playing melodrama in Reading he was linked with the killing of an elderly tobacconist. Charles Luard, a former soldier who had retired to Kent, became the target of accusing telephone calls and poison pen letters after his wife of 33 years was found shot dead. There is absorbing material here but as before in these programmes, a tighter commentary and a less florid dramatisation might have made more effective use of it.

Dangerfield
BBC1, 9.30pm

Of late the police-cum-medical drama has diluted its main story by trying to cram in too many random sub-plots. But be assured that in tonight's episode that seemingly unconnected elements (a young mother's suicide, an arson attack) are skilfully interwoven, though that does not become apparent until near the end. Fiona Victory's stern and humourless Irish doctor is getting a higher profile these days, leaving Dangerfield (Nigel Le Vaillant) to anguish even more than usual over his troublesome children. And with daughter Al (Tamzin Malleson) six months pregnant and alone in her cottage in the woods, Dad has every reason to worry. Tom Bell guests in a role he does so well, the brooding, uncommunicative loner who may just be a man who prefers his own company but could equally be up to something very nasty.

The Nation's Favourite Poems
BBC1, 10.20pm

National Poetry Day (which fell yesterday) has been the cue for a week of celebrity readings dotted through the BBC schedules and the chance for viewers to vote for their favourite modern poem. In a poll last year Kipling's *If* emerged as the people's all-time choice but as the cut-off point this time is the last 50 years there will have to be a new winner. It will be revealed and read in a programme hosted by Griff Rhys Jones and featuring other readings by Julia Sawalha and Patricia Hodge. Those with sharp ears may have noticed that all sorts of programmes recently, from *Breakfast With Frost* to *Grandstand* and the weather forecast, have been surreptitiously featuring lines of verse. Tonight these examples of poetic licence will be brought together and identified. **Peter Waymark**

6.00am GMTV (7545817)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (Teletext) (s) (2416782)
9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6203966)
10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (92188)
10.30 This Morning (27513430)
12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (7480966)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (3122508)
12.55 ***Murder, She Wrote*** *(s)* (4757782) **2.00 Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (27731985) **2.25 Quisine** (Teletext) (s) (27734072) **2.55 Yan Can Cook** (r) (s) (3926530)
3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (5435256)
3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (5434527)
3.30 Jays World (9686614) **3.40 The Adventures of Dawdle** (9666850) **3.55 Oscar and Friends** (8375140) **4.00 Roger and the Rottentrolls** (Teletext) (8766275) **4.15 Hurricanes** (Teletext) (s) (6085362) **4.40 Fun House** (Teletext) (s) (8200850)
5.10 A Country Practice (s) (8231072)
5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (603817)
6.00 Home and Away *(r) (Teletext) (s)* (143411)
6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (301324)
7.00 Catchphrase. Quiz game presented by Roy Walker. (Teletext) (s) (1166)
7.30 Coronation Street. Tricia is very upset by a letter she receives from her jailbird husband (Teletext) (140)
8.00 The Bill. Meadows and Rawton have *difficulty in persuading the girlfriend of a* suspected rapist to help them in his arrest *(Teletext)* (8966)
8.30 Strange but True? Encounters. *Includes the story of American psychic* Dbie Yeterian, who helped the police *solve cases with detailed information* from her visions. She was so successful *that an underworld hit-man was sent to* visit her — and her story becomes *stranger still (Teletext) (s) (8701)*



Tony Steedman stars (9pm)

9.00 CHOICE **In Suspicious Circumstances** *(Teletext) (s)* (9411)
10.00 News (Teletext) and weather (69140)
10.30 HTV West News (436237)
10.40 Late and Live. Interactive talk show. Tonight's guest is one of the Birmingham six, Paddy Joe Hill, who spent 16 years in prison only to be cleared by the Court of Appeal and released in 1991 (9504695)
12.10am Alfred Hitchcock Presents (5927218)
12.45 Ed's Night Party (89270)
1.15 Funny Business (s) (86183)
1.45 The Good Sex Guide . . . Late (s) (794096)
2.45 Bushell on the Box (r) (s) (4887522)
3.10 War and Remembrance *(r)* (244725)
5.00 Best of British Motorsport *(r)* (68270)
5.30 News (53251)

As HTV WEST except:
2.55pm-3.20 Look and Cook (3926530)
5.10 Let's Go (2543091)
6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (301324)
10.40 Barry Welsh Is Coming (786782)
11.10 Mainly Men (893508)
11.40 Swift Justice (376121)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.55 Coronation Street (3130527)
1.25-1.55 Quisine (64276807)
1.55 Home and Away (14780879)
2.25 High Road (27734072)
2.55-3.20 Gardeners' Diary (3926530)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8231072)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (42512)
10.30 Westcountry News (450817)
10.45 Club 2245 (630459)
11.45 Highlander (629343)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55 Home and Away (3130527)
1.25 Quisine (64276807)
1.55 A Country Practice (44328492)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8231072)
6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (301324)
10.40 Central Weekend (9504695)
12.10am Sledge Hammer (7737251)
12.40 Comedy Central (7591947)
1.40 The Good Sex Guide . . . Late (8141928)
2.40 *cyber.cafe* (4888251)
3.05 Helter Skelter (7389893)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 Quisine (3130527)
1.25 Home and Away (64276807)
1.55 A Country Practice (44328492)
5.10 Home and Away (8231072)
6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (42512)
10.30 Meridian News and Weather (450817)
10.45 A406 (205527)
11.15 The Loop (295140)
11.45 Bon Jovi Live at Wembley (629343)
5.00am Freescreen (68270)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (9056275) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (97121) **9.00 Here's One I Made Earlier** (86817) **9.30 Ysgolion: Eureka!** (1887898) **9.45 Stop, Look, Listen** (1875053) **10.00 Fourways Farm** (7512324) **10.10 TVM** (4783343) **10.25 The Technology Programme** (4788898) **10.40 Off Limits** (8098701) **11.05 Conference Report: The Leader's Speech** (3519169) **12.30pm Backdate** (93695) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (44968) **1.30 Film: The Pickwick Papers** (48527) **3.30 The Living Sea** (362) **4.00 Fifteen to One** (169) **4.30 Dosh** (463) **5.00 5 Pump: Tarot Tarot** (5722256) **5.15 5 Pump: Nina** (2310508) **5.30 Countdown** (633) **6.05 Heno** (161817) **6.35 Jacpot** (310256) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (421121) **7.25 Testament Y Beibl Wedi'I Hanimeiddio** (612362) **8.00 Llwybrau Dei** (4508) **8.30 Newyddion** (6343) **9.00 Glan Hafren** (7053) **10.00 Brookside** (67782) **10.30 Rory Bremner . . . Who Else?** (222411) **11.10 Eurotrash** (884850) **11.40 T.F.I. Friday** (307091) **12.45am Film: Zoltan, Hound of Dracula** (908744) **2.20 Film: The Gorgon** (208763) **3.55 Film: Invasion of Astromonster** (691270)

6.35am The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (r) (90562751)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (97121)
9.00 ***Here's One I Made Earlier*** (86817)
9.30 Schools: Eureka! 9.45 Stop Look Listen 10.00 Fourways Farm 10.10 TVM 10.25 Technology Prog 10.40 Off Limits (40931343)
11.05 Conference Report: The Leader's Speech (3519169)
12.30pm Backdate (Teletext) (93695)
1.00 Sesame Street (8972275)
1.55 Blind Man's Bluff (44335782)
2.15 FILM: No Trees in the Street (b/w, 1959) *with Sylvia Sims, Joan Miller and* Herbert Lom. A mother tries to force her daughter to marry the local criminal big shot as a way out of the gutter. Directed by J. Lee Thompson (187508)
4.00 Fifteen to One (169) **4.30 Countdown** (453) **5.00 Cutting Edge** *(r) (Teletext)* (7459)
6.00 ***T.F.I. Friday.*** *The guests include Peter* O'Toole and Keith Allen. With music from *Suede and Jools Holland (s)* (42594)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (8169)
8.00 Garden Doctors (Teletext) (s) (4508)
8.30 Brookside. Nat tries to prevent Georgia from confessing all (Teletext) (6343)
9.00 Caroline in the City. *American sit-com* about a female cartoonist making it in the *Big City* (9782)



Problems for Joey (9.30pm)

9.30 Friends. Joey's ill-advised comments to a fan magazine could wreck his acting career (Teletext) (s) (13459)
10.00 Frasier. When Diane Chambers blows into Seattle for the premiere of her new play, Frasier is torn between still carrying a torch for her and resentment at being ditched at the altar (Teletext) (s) (67782)
10.30 Rory Bremner . . . Who Else? (222411)
11.10 Eurotrash. Antoine de Caunes looks at a new trend in Italy — the rise of female erotic cartoonists, challenging the previous preserve of men (884850)
11.40 TFI Friday (r) (s) (307091)
12.45 FILM: Zoltan, Hound of Dracula *(1978)* with José Ferrer and Michael Pataki. A *Transylvanian vampire and a vampirish* dog travel to Los Angeles in search of *Dracula's last living descendant. Directed* by Albert Band (908744)
2.20 FILM: **The Gorgon** *(1964)* with Peter Cushing, Christopher Lee and Barbara Shelley. In a 19th-century Balkan village lives the last of a legendary line, the Gorgon. *Directed by Terence Fisher* (208763)
3.55 FILM: Invasion of Astromonster (1965) with Nick Adams, Akira Takada and Kumi *Mizuno. Godzilla and Rodan* venture into space to fight a flying dragon which is on a mission to destroy Earth. *Directed by* Inoshiro Honda (691270) Ends at **5.35am**

Michael Keaton and Marisa Tomei star (Movie Channel 10pm)

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00am-9.00 TV High Street. Includes consumer news and features and Your Stars presented by Russell Grant
From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine. Includes recipes and ideas from Delia Smith *and Keith Floyd*
From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty. Includes Diet and Fitness with Rosemary Conley
From 3.00-6.00 Home and Garden. Includes *The Good Life Style Guide*

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography (8699508) **5.00** Ancient Mysteries (2958546) **6.00** Weapons at War (3745701) **7.00-8.00** Biography (8145275)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic series every day from **8pm-4am** Monday to Wednesday and **1am-4am** Thursday to Sunday on satellite, and from **8am-4am** every day on cable
1.00am Tales of the Unexpected (8876676) **1.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (9273183) **2.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (3877454) **2.30** Roc Serling's Night Gallery (3896589) **3.00** Friday the 13th (6728541) ***3.55-4.00*** *Quarks* (16902928)

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7484237) **9.30** Gardeners' Diary (2305053) **10.00** Two's Country (4680256) **10.30** The House (7473121) **11.00** *Furniture to Go* (5057091) **11.30** Crattwise (5025492) **12.00** Julia Child (7497701) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (4200689) **1.00** Yan Can Cook (7055091) **1.30** Home Again (91555330) **2.00** Hometime (8065169) **2.30** Garden Club (5771169) **3.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (8077904) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (5776614)
From 4.00pm-Midnight DISCOVERY as below.
4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (5755121) **4.30** Bush Tucker Man (5784633) **5.00** Time Travellers (8049121) **5.30** Jurassica II (5775985) **6.00** Shark Week (7155350) **7.00** Crocodile Hunters (8089985) **7.30** Mysterious World (5788362) **8.00** Shark Week (2224527) **9.00** Justice Files (2237091) **10.00** Shark Week (2207850) ***11.00-12.00*** *Classic Wheels* (7032140)

UK GOLD

7.00am *Lassie (7025850)* ***7.30*** *Give Us A Clue (7044985)* **8.00** Neighbours (5015904) **8.25** EastEnders (5582527) **9.00** The Bill (7486995) **9.30** The Sullivans (9950311) **10.00** Coldiz (7040169) **11.00** Bullseye (5026121) ***11.30*** *Sale of the Century* (5027850) **12.00** Tellystack (7406459) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2400807) **1.00** EastEnders (1568430) **1.25** Bread (1927695) **2.20** Singer's Day (63310275) **2.50** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (9407492) **3.30** The Bill (5778072) **4.00** Howards' Way (5040701) **5.00** Bullseye (8058879) **5.30** What a Carry On! (5777343) **6.00** Tellystack (5774256) **6.30** EastEnders (5614492) **7.05** The Legendary Norman Wisdom (8282362) **7.55** Funny You Ask (8000814) **8.25** Ever Decreasing Circles (1630275) **9.00** Casualty (10086527) **10.05** The Bill (8828169) **10.40** Best of Not the Nine O'Clock News (9586091) **11.15** Live at Jongleurs (9856546) **11.45** Miami Vice (3588053) **12.40am FILM: With Savage Intent** *(47371676)* ***2.00*** *Shopping at Night*

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (2901661) **6.20** Meltdown: Teenage Urban Adventures (8001409) **6.45** Degrassi Junior High (119121) **7.15** Ready or Not (149362) **7.45** California Dreams (148633) ***8.15*** *Sweet* Valley High (394985) **8.45** Art Attack (8702508) **9.00** Tiny TCC (until 3.00pm): Tiny and Crew (9928898) **9.20** Mr Benn (9931362) **9.40** Teddy Trucks (4925343) **9.50** Towser (4921527) **10.00** 10+2 (7885850) **10.20** The Clangers (8616411) **10.40** *Bertha (3020504)* **11.00** Dinobabies (22985) **11.30** Jim Henson's Animal Show (23324) **12.00** Barney (52546) **12.30pm** Oscar's Orchestra (80617) **1.00** Casper and Friends (79696) **1.30** Tiny and Crew (455695277) **1.55** Mr Benn (77326546) **2.20** Towser (80830982) **2.30** Christopher Crocodile (3630850) **2.40** Bertha (9113140) **3.00** Degrassi Junior High (8898) **3.30** Ready or Not (2035) **4.00** California Dreams (9492) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (8904)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (77492) **6.30** Biker Mice from Mars (63614) **7.00** Rocko's Modern Life (3721661) **7.15** *Hey Arnold (8462430)* **7.30** *Rugrats (81508)* **8.00** Doug (13633) **8.30** Aaahhh!! Real Monsters (12904) **9.00** Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego? (26576) **9.30** Wishbone (40275) **10.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (4263701) **10.10** Kabe and Orbe (1132427) **10.35** Mr Man (8269362) **10.40** Wil Quack Quack (8266275) **10.45** *Bananas in Pyjamas* (6886140) **11.00** BBC Block (90256) **12.00** Clarissa Explains It All (83492) **12.30pm** Sister Sister (44091) **1.00** Babar (94072) **1.30** Littlest Pet Shop (43362) **2.00** *Little Bear Stories (6275)* **2.30** BBC Block (31459) **3.30** Aaahhh!! Real Monsters (4189) **4.00** Insektors (7254072) **4.15** Technik (7244695) **4.30** Rugrats (6080643) **4.45** Doug (1010148) **5.00** Sister Sister (7527) **5.30** Moesha (6140) **6.00** Space Cases (3053) **6.30-7.00** Smash Hits (7833)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Dell'arni Strokes (6861) **7.30** Benson (3817) **8.00** *Due South (6411)* **8.30** Due South (5546) **9.00** Almost Perfect (97985) **9.30** Taxi (31527) **10.00** ET UK (84121) **10.30** Dr Katz (76099) **11.00** Nightstand (82430) **11.30** Nightstand (43850) **12.00** Sledgehammer (47638) **12.30am** Kids in the Hall (23560) **1.00** Due South (38218) **1.30** Due South (43096) **2.00** ET UK (47909) **2.30** Dr Katz (59744) **3.00** Nightstand (16454) **3.30-4.00** Nightstand *(40096)*

BRAVO

12.00 Fantasy Island (9955332) **1.00pm** Remington Steele (3850940) **2.00** Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased) (4658411) **3.00** Land of the Giants (5056362) **4.00 FILM: *Foreign Intrigue*** *(8075546)* **6.00** Thunderbirds (9250184) **7.00** Monkey (2235633) **8.00** Remington Steele (2211053) **9.00** Starsky and Hutch (2231817) **10.00-12.00 FILM: The Legacy** (5055633)

UK LIVING

6.00am Kilroy (8421904) **7.00** Esther (4543411) **7.30** The Young and the Restless (8815411) **8.20** A Taste of Wales (12897821) **8.55** Inititation UK (27845446) **9.35** Call the Doctor (5801459) **10.00** Super Fresco Fabulosious (1620614) **10.05** The Jerry Springer Show (8914072) **11.00** The Young *and the Restless (8000053)* **11.55** The Good Food Show (72760879) **12.25pm** Trivial Pursuit (47853625) **12.50** Gabrielle (9576782) **1.40** Rolonda (7519508) **2.30** The Agony Experience (7896701) **3.00** Live at Three (7110140) **4.00** Who's Sorry Now? (7887053) **4.30** Talkabout (5853099) **5.05** *Lingo* (92532986) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (7807817) **6.00** Bewitched (7887430) **6.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (1741661) **7.05** The New Mr and Mrs Show (2624459) **7.35** Super Fresco Fabulosious (6514850) **7.40** *Trivial Pursuit (8144091)* **8.00** Street Legal (7782968) **9.00 FILM: Cradle of Conspiracy** (83219985) **10.55** Sex Life (8460492) **11.25-12.00** More Sex Life (4784324)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Blockbusters (3343) **5.30** Treasure Hunt (35898) **6.30** Catchphrase (2891) **7.00** Through the Keyhole (84406) **7.30** Sweet Justice (73633) **8.30** Rising Damp (1362) **9.00** Bergerac (82701) **10.00** The Ruth Rendell Mysteries (72188) **11.00** Only When I Laugh (47904) **11.30** Home to Roost (51904) **12.00** Moonlighting (80454) **1.00am** Bergerac (55454) **2.00** Sweet Justice (32676) **3.00** Moonlighting (13638) **4.00** All Together Now (83855) **4.30-5.00** *The Black Stallion (53909)*

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and *pop videos and the best new sounds*

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran (97616430) **7.30** Lifestyle East (39494633) **8.30** Campus (14849461) **9.00** Shri Krishna (96849661) **9.30** Chehre (34549506) **10.00** Hasratein (55673169) **10.30** Durga (90449625) **11.00** Zalim Ka Sajar (82007237) **11.30** Teri Bhi Chup Meri Bhi Chup (82006966) **12.00** Andaz (93710807) **12.30pm** Tejaash (34543324) **1.00 FILM: TBA** (27102072) **4.00** Mere Saath Chal (41637411) **4.30** Sona Chandi (41633695) **5.00** Zee Zone (36831275) **5.30** *Zee Presents* (61084343) **6.30** Zee and U (41638140) **7.00** BBCD (



BASEBALL 42
World Series catches fire after kid's glove lifts Yankees

SPORT

ROWING 43
Searle brother embarks on a solo voyage



FRIDAY OCTOBER 11 1996

Giants compete to take over United

David Maddock identifies some of the suitors queueing up to woo the most profitable football club in the world

MANCHESTER UNITED, the most profitable football club in the world, is being lined up as the subject of a takeover bid that will value the public limited company at more than £350 million.

Martin Edwards, the chief executive of Manchester United plc and chairman of the football club, has already rejected overtures from Michael Grade of Channel Four television. Grade is the chairman of a video distribution company, VCI, which approached the United board with a takeover proposal valuing the club at £300 million.

That was rejected because Edwards did not feel there was enough depth to VCI's business plan for the football club and because the value of the company leapt when yearly profits of £16.7 million were announced this week — despite several adverse trading factors.

However, Edwards accepts that the VCI bid will be the first of many, with a scramble amongst leading leisure and television companies to secure the most financially attractive sports club in Great Britain. *The Times* can reveal that several business giants, including Granada and Whitbread, have expressed a strong interest in buying the club.

Edwards has privately said that it would take upwards of £350 million to buy United. That will not deter Granada, one of the most powerful independent television companies in Britain, which is based in Manchester.

United presents a massively attractive proposition for Granada, because of a television revolution — pay-per-view — that will sweep Britain within the next three years. The company has developed the technology, through its cable and satellite interests, to beam United matches into most homes in the country.

United has commissioned a recent report on the impact of pay-per-view, which found that the FA Carling Premiership could command as much as £3 billion in fees per year, with United apparently able to secure a slice of anything up to £500 million of that total figure. Those figures are probably exaggerated, but expert analysis in the City suggests that a turnover figure of around £250 million should be attainable for United within the next three years, should it embrace pay-per-view.

With United valued at £285 million on a turnover of £53 million, the potential for growth within the short-term is obvious. Big television companies like Granada and Channel Four would also have the massive bonus of being able to offer their viewers the chance to watch Manchester United. BSkyB has quickly become a profitable venture, using sport as the main attraction with football coverage is the jewel in the crown of its output.

Edwards is the largest shareholder at the club, with a 17 per cent stake, while the rest of the shares are held largely by City institutions, thus making United a prime target for a takeover — if the offer valued the club at a higher level than its present £285 million rating. United, conceivably, could have a value of approaching £1 billion in a little over three years' time, when the television deal with BSkyB ends and it can introduce its own pay-per-view service. With a television company at the helm, such figures would be attainable and make its present valuation hugely attractive.

Edwards conceded last night that there would be more bids after the failure of VCI to secure a takeover — and he indicated that he would be ready to do business if the price was right.

"Any successful company is an attractive takeover prospect. People are going to look at it, so it could well be the subject of more takeover proposals," he said. "What I can say is that it's not something that we've sought and it's not something that we are particularly looking for." United is already in talks with Granada over plans for its own television station and it seems a natural progression towards a joint-venture into pay-per-view, with the television company taking a controlling stake in the club. Other businesses, however, will make the takeover battle a heated one. Whitbread has expressed an interest and United News and Media, with its newspaper and television interests, is also reported to be looking for a football club.

Pay-per-view is the way forward for football and big media players in Europe are anxious to get into pay-per-view. If United is ultimately acquired by an English television company, then it could pave the way for a European Super League.

McGrath called in to act as Derby mentor

BY RICHARD HOBSON

PAUL McGRATH has not always have been regarded as an ideal role model, but yesterday he joined Derby County with the instruction of guiding the club's youngsters through the remainder of their first season in the FA Carling Premiership.

The 36-year-old defender, capped 82 times by the Republic of Ireland, completed his move from Aston Villa, for a fee that will rise to £200,000 with appearances, having agreed personal terms with Jim Smith, the Derby manager, yesterday morning.

He will go straight into the side for the game against Newcastle United at the Baseball Ground tomorrow. "I could have had an easier start than Shearer and Ferdinand but it will be a relief to be playing first team football again," McGrath said. His one appearance for Villa this season was as a substitute in the Uefa Cup tie against Helsingborgs in Sweden.

"I did not think I would get another contract with Villa at the end of last season, but when I was offered a one-year deal by Brian Little [the manager] I thought I was in his plans. That is why I was surprised and annoyed not to play."

McGrath, who has signed until the end of the season, admits that his chance of an international recall is slim. Smith, though, believes he has signed a bargain. "I just felt that somebody of his ability and experience was too good to miss. There is a lot of quality here but eight of the first team squad are 24 or under and I expect Paul to be a big influence on them."

Sheffield Wednesday hope to unveil Benito Carbone as their new signing today. The Internazionale midfield player flew from Milan to discuss personal terms with the club last night. Wednesday have agreed a fee of £2.75 million.

"We are a long way down the road and he would be a terrific signing for us," David Pleat, the Wednesday manager, said.

Wembley lessons 44
Scotland in dark 44
Whither Weah? 44

O'Meara sets pace in Dunhill Cup

Scotland fall to stroke of good fortune

BY MARK SOUSTER

THE sun shone, the skies were bright and the winds fair, but not so Scotland's fortunes yesterday. The defending champions were left with barely a fingerhold on the Dunhill Cup after a disappointing first day when they were beaten 2-1 by Sweden.

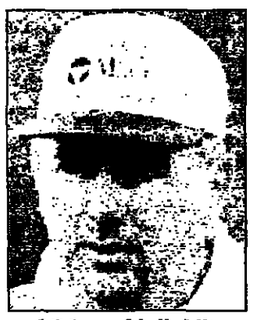
On a day of low scoring, with matches going very much to form, Scotland were the only seeded country to lose. Qualification for the semi-finals is not beyond them, but to do so they must beat both India, their opponents today, and then Zimbabwe, both by a 3-0 margin, and then hope that the Swedes slip up.

Jarmo Sandelin holed an outrageous 110ft putt at the 16th to set up victory over Colin Montgomerie in the vital third match. Despite a collective total of 11 under par, the Scots were left pondering what might have been; so too, for altogether different reasons, was Mark O'Meara.

The 39-year-old American threatened to make history at St Andrews when, after nine holes and some unbelievable putting, he stood eight under par. Eight successive birdies from the 2nd to the 9th for a record outward 28 on the Old Course, and the elements in his favour left one wondering not if, but how easily, he would beat Curtis Strange's course record of 62.

It seemed a certainty when O'Meara, who was playing Costantino Rocca, of Italy, added birdies at the 11th and 12th. Four successive pars followed before the Road Hole derailed him. There, despite a perfect drive, he had a double-bogey six after his five-iron from 177 yards finished up on the gravel road; he elected to use his putter but barely made the surface, his par attempt slid five feet past and he missed the return.

"I knew at that time I had thrown away my chances of beating Curtis's record and believe me I was thinking about it the whole backside," O'Meara, the American captain, who won the pro-am on Wednesday, said. Ironically, he birdied the 18th for a 63.



O'Meara: birdie blitz

With the score at 1-1 in Scotland's match, after victory for Andrew Coltart by three strokes over Peter Hedblom but a one-stroke defeat for Raymond Russell by Patrick Sjorland, the outcome hinged on Montgomerie's duel with Sandelin. Montgomerie, the world No 2, began with three successive birdies which Sandelin admitted later had unnerved him, but some poor tee-shots and indifferent putting meant that he was never able to pull clear. By the 16th, when the match was turned on its head by two strokes of massive good fortune, they were level.

Sandelin pushed his second so far right that he was relieved to see his ball stay in play albeit 30 metres from the flag off the green. Montgomerie, safely on in regulation, sensed a possible two-shot swing. However, he could only look on aghast as Sandelin's putt travelled inexorably on and on, swinging left to right at the crucial moment and dropped in.

The putt sank Scotland's hopes. Montgomerie was visibly deflated. Sandelin bent down in the manner of a fencer, his putter in front of him like an épée, and pumped his right arm back and forth; to think that Sandelin had thrown away his old putter at the Lancôme Trophy in Paris and finished his second round using his three-iron.

Montgomerie rescued par with an exquisite chip at the 17th but he failed to take advantage of Sandelin's weak first putt on the 18th and three-putted himself. "That's the way it goes," Montgomerie said. "We can't be too despondent. We have got to look forward to the next two days and the weather could change which will be in our favour if the wind picks up."

Ernie Els returned the second-best round of the day, a seven-under-par 65 as South Africa beat Canada 2-1 in group three, while Australia overcame Japan by a similar margin. England recorded the biggest margin of victory, convincingly beating Spain 3-0 in group one and meet the United States today in a match that will decide the semi-finalists.

IAN STEWART



A pensive Montgomerie contemplates defeat in his match against Sandelin at St Andrews yesterday

DUNHILL CUP DETAILS

GROUP ONE: United States 2 Italy 1 (United States names first: M O'Meara 63 bt C Rocca 70; P Mickelson 72 lost to E Canonica 72, at 20th; S Stricker 68 bt S Grappasonni 75). Spain 0 England 3 (Spain names first: I Garrido 77 lost to I. Westwood 69; M A Jiménez 71 lost to J Lomas 70; D Borrego 76 lost to B Lane 69).

GROUP TWO: Zimbabwe 2 India 1 (Zimbabwe names first: A Johnstone 73 lost to A Sher 72; M McNulty 70 bt G Ghei 73, N Price 70 bt J Singh 71). Scotland 1 Sweden 2 (Scotland names first: A Coltart 67 bt P Hedblom 70, R Russell 69 lost to P Sjoland 68; C Montgomerie 69 lost to J Sandelin 68)

GROUP THREE: South Africa 2 Canada 1 (Canada names first: W Westner 68 bt R Todd 77, E Els 65 bt R Gibson 73; R Goosen 76 lost to J Rutledge 69). Ireland 2 Wales 1 (Ireland names first: D Clarke 71 lost to M Mouland 70; P McGinley 68 bt P Affleck 70; P Harrington 70 bt P Price 74)

GROUP FOUR: New Zealand 2 Germany 1 (New Zealand names first: G Waite 69 bt H-P Thul 69, at 22nd; G Turner 74 lost to T Gogele 71; F Nobilo 66 bt S Strüver 71) Australia 2 Japan 1 (Australia names first: W Riley 71 lost to N Ozaki 67; S Elkington 68 bt K Takami 74, G Norman 72 bt H Meshisi 74)

Allenby's agony 45
Torrance's lie-in 45

International matches out of the running

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER 42 consecutive years of competing in international matches, Great Britain will have no such fixture next year. Although a nominal match appears on the 1997 British Athletic Federation (BAF) fixtures list, published yesterday, it will be a contrived one against an International Select team. Gone are matches like the indoors ones against France and Russia, which were staged this year.

The cuts, which reduce from four to two the number of main indoor fixtures in Britain, are the result of the BAF's parlous financial position and a blow to the development of emerging international athletes. All that remains are the national championships and Ricoh Tour.

Again, like this year, there is no bona fide outdoor international match. This summer, British officials picked the International Select team. One outdoor meeting has been dropped, too: the one held this year at Crystal Palace after the Olympic Games.

On a more cheerful note, however, the announcement of a new television contract is likely within a fortnight. "We could not get television coverage for those two fixtures," Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, said of the matches against Russia and France. "With the current financial state of the federation, it would not be wise to stage international meetings on crowd support alone."

Two other significant announcements were made yesterday. The 1998 Commonwealth Games programme in Kuala Lumpur has been put back two days to avoid a clash with the World Cup in Johannesburg, and Primo Nebiolo, the International Amateur Athletic Federation president, said that changes would be made to the summer grand prix in 1998.

Boardman's golden shot washed away

BY PETER BRYAN

CHRIS BOARDMAN made no excuses yesterday when he ended up with the silver medal rather than the gold that he had set his heart on at the world time-trial championship in Switzerland.

He was beaten by Alex Zülle, winner of the Tour of Spain last month, by 40 seconds and was thus foiled in his attempt to set a unique record of winning a world cycling title on track and road in the same year.

Yet Boardman's heart must have sunk hours before he started what he had earlier acknowledged would be a physically hard 40.4km test against the clock, when heavy rain made sections of the course akin to a skid-pan.

For the Briton there was the additional burden of the memory of the opening time-trial in the Tour de France last year, when, within minutes of the start, Boardman was spread-eagled across a rain-soaked road, his ankle shattered after crashing as he negotiated a bend at 50mph.

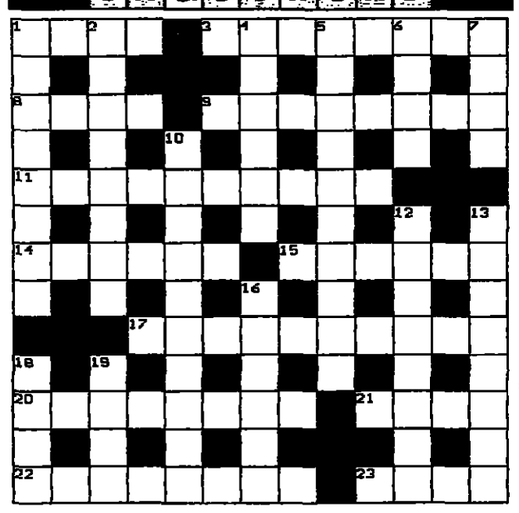
"I descended terribly today and like it or not the Tour crash has scarred me and taken away some of my confidence," he said. However, he added: "The rain did not affect today's result."

Zülle, who started ahead of Boardman and his fellow Swiss, Tony Rominger, set the race pattern at the 13.5km time check. He went through in 18min 44sec; Boardman was second, on 18.59. Boardman reduced the deficit by one second at 26.8km but the 1.8km climb of the Crespera provided a display of power by Zülle, who went over the summit with 27 seconds in hand from Boardman.

Boardman's silver medal was a hard-won award. At the end, only 1.87 seconds separated him from Rominger.

Results, page 46

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 910

ACROSS
1 Vestment; manage (4)
3 Bellicose nationalist (8)
8 Inflammatory speech (4)
9 S W Wales cathedral town (2,6)
11 Barren, desolate land (10)
14 Meal (6)
15 Capital of Albania (6)
17 (Meeting) in person (4,2,4)
20 Consistent (with) (2,1,5)
21 Bee house (4)
22 Candidate clergyman (8)
23 Tidy; undiluted (4)

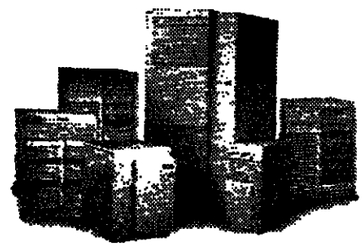
DOWN
1 Showing strain, worry (8)
2 Ulysses' faithful wife (8)
4 Be determined (to) (6)
5 Lonely wife (5,5)
6 Sacred wader (4)
7 Throw in air; spin (coin) (4)
10 *Anne Elliot* novel (10)
12 One living off another (8)
13 Room below ground (8)
16 Signal fire (6)
18 Horseback game; water game (4)
19 Unembellished, blunt (4)

The solution to 909 will be published Wednesday, October 16

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Retail giant overcomes decades of shareholder resistance to open first branch in Cologne

M&S set out to storm German high streets

FROM ROGER BOYES IN COLOGNE

MARKS & SPENCER yesterday overcame half a century of reluctance about investing in Germany and opened its first store in the centre of Cologne. Elbowing each other in the rush to buy M&S pork pies, Christmas puddings and cotton underpants, German *Hausfrauen* seemed to view the arrival of the shop as the beginning of a counter-revolution on the high street.

"It's time we had better service — maybe the British can help us," Hildegard Wurmbach said as she waded through free food samples.

In the basement of the six-floor building, there was an active debate about crumpets. "What are they? What do you do with them?" a middle-aged woman asked. The uniformed German assistant swallowed, probably surpressing her normal response to bark back: "You eat them." Instead, in line with her training in the Baker Street branch of M&S, she explained the science of toasting and eating crumpets.

Upstairs in underwear, a guffawing Rhinelander expressed disappointment that there were no Princess Diana lookalike mannequins. Nearby, an elderly woman was shaking her head in dismay. "I still cannot get used to buying bananas and knickers in the same shop."

The main hurdle for British retailers, however, is to persuade Germans that bratwurst is not the only kind of convenience food and that British-made custard tart might taste as good as cheesecake from the local baker.

The British are on the advance in the German retail world, with Sir Terence Conran having just opened a Conran design shop in Hamburg. The port city is already regarded as a centre of anglophilia: the Anglo-German Club mimics the clubs of St James and the shops are full of tweed and British trenchcoats.

In the Second World War the Gestapo arrested 1,500 Hamburgers for "anglophile tendencies", because they went dancing with crepe-soled shoes, listened to Benny Goodman or carried Chamberlain umbrellas. Nowadays Savile Row tailors visit the two most exclusive hotels twice a year to measure up their many clients. Cologne, however, is a different matter. Like Hamburg it was bombed flat by the British: unlike Hamburg, there is still some lingering resentment.

Marks & Spencer also had to overcome some of its own doubts about Germany. While M&S built up a chain of 26 stores in France, it has ignored Germany partly because of the reservations of Jewish shareholders and some members of the Sieff dynasty which created the modern group.

Yesterday, for the first time in M&S history, the price was in marks and the customers seemed happy. Even with prices about 10 to 15 per cent higher than in England, M&S is competitive in the German high street. The neighbouring and much bigger department store of Kaufhof responded by slashing some prices. That too was welcomed by German customers.

However, M&S is competing largely on quality and on service. This will be the main British contribution to Germany's shopping revolution. If a shirt or a jacket is unavailable in your size in a normal German store, it is bad luck on the customer. "We are guaranteeing our customers that we will get them the right size merchandise within 24 hours," Clive Nickolds, European divisional director, said. German sales staff, meanwhile, have been trained to smile and offer assistance, not customary in department stores here. "We took 150 sales assistants to London and showed them how it works," Brian Hudspith, manager of corporate affairs, said. The store manager in Cologne is a young Englishman but he has two German sub-managers. British companies are moving into Germany now because the local shopping climate is about to undergo a sea change. From November 1, shops will be free to open in the evenings and on Saturday afternoons. Previously the priority was to protect shop assistants from unnecessary fatigue.

Other British stores — such as Virgin Records which retreated from Berlin a few years ago after a brief, unhappy venture — are likely to follow suit. "We could not ignore such a huge market of 80 million people in the centre of Europe," Mr Nickolds said.

□ **French role:** The sandwiches sold in the Cologne M&S store ae to be made in France and delivered fresh in the morning.

> It's time we had better service — maybe the British can help us

Leading article, page 21

ARND WIEGMANN/REUTER



Shoppers queue outside the store in Cologne yesterday where M&S goods sold in marks for the first time

HOW PRICES COMPARE

	Germany	England
Men's lambswool pullover	DM70 (£29.29)	£27
Men's sweatshirt	DM55 (£23.01)	£18
Argyle socks (pair)	DM9 (£3.76)	£3.50
Women's knickers (pack of 3)	DM25 (£10.46)	£10
Women's leather loafers	DM70 (£29.29)	£35
Bin 65 Australian Chardonnay	DM8.25 (£3.45)	£4.49
Indian meal for two	DM17 (£7.11)	£6.49

French cook up tax attack on Big Mac

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRENCH MPs moved to defend traditional cuisine and raise extra revenue yesterday by proposing a "Big Mac" tax that would increase taxes hugely on the fast-food shops spreading across France.

The Finance Committee of the National Assembly adopted an amendment to next year's budget that would almost quadruple the rate of VAT on fast food, from 5.5 per cent to 20.6 per cent.

"This fast-food amendment is not just aimed at hamburgers," said Pierre Mehaignerie, the committee chairman. "It will also hit sandwich vendors and other takeaway outlets." The tax would bring in an additional revenue of Frl billion (£124 million), M Mehaignerie said.

Owners of bistros and cafés say that the time-honoured French way of eating is dying out as fast-food shops overrun the country. Most eating places must charge the full VAT rate on food and drink; fast-food shops pay the lower rate charged on retail food.

The Government has not yet commented on the proposed "Big Mac" tax, which aims to make fast-food eaters pay up while encouraging others to sit down to a more traditional meal. Fewer French executives these days have time for the traditional three-course lunch. Yesterday the sandwich counter at Marks & Spencer on the Boulevard Haussmann in Paris was surrounded by a most inelegant scrum at lunchtime, as it is every day, where chic Parisians jostled suited businessmen for the last of the "cheddar et tomate, sauce à la mayonnaise au pain au blé et seigle concasses" (cheese and tomato sandwich).

M&S in Paris is more than a shop: it is a fashion statement, offering a version of "Le style outre-Manche" that is a good deal more affordable than the nearby "Old England" department store selling pukka riding crops and tweed suits.

An M&S bag can hold its own with any of the upmarket labels in Paris such as Galeries Lafayette. Further, the sandwiches, many of them made in Britain and shipped daily, are better than their French rivals. The M&S precooked meal has also found a niche with working couples unwilling to spend hours preparing an evening meal.

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BASILDON Town Centre
WOKING Town Centre

SOUTH & SOUTH EAST
BASINGSTOKE – OPENING Brighton Hill Retail Park, Winchester Road, A30.
BEDFORD Interchange Park on A421
OXFORD Botley Rd (A420) east of A34 City bypass.
PORTSMOUTH Ocean Park, Burnfields Road.
LUTON Gipsy Lane, 1 mile off Junction 10 of M1
HARLOW Retail Park Area, Edinburgh Way (A414).
POOLE/BOURNEMOUTH Dorset Way.
READING Forbury Road.
STEVENAGE Roaring Meg Retail Park.
MIDWAY On A229 Rochester Airport
SOUTHAMPTON City Centre

EAST ANGLIA
IPSWICH Junction A12/A45 by Tesco
PETERBOROUGH On Bourges Boulevard.

MIDLANDS
SHREWSBURY At Meole Brace Retail Park.
COVENTRY Just south of Junct.2, M6/M69
SOLIHULL Marshall Lake Rd off A34 near Stonebridge.
NOTTINGHAM Queens Drive, off Ring Road.
DERBY On A52 Nottingham/Derby Road
BIRMINGHAM City Centre
OLDBURY Junction 2 M5
NORTHAMPTON Town Centre
LEICESTER Fosse Park.
HANLEY/STOKE Garden Festival Park.

SCOTLAND
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EDINBURGH Newcraighall.
GLASGOW New Parkhead Retail Park, by Forge Shopping Centre on By-pass.
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WALES & WEST
SWINDON Junction A419/A420
PLYMOUTH Western Approach, City Centre.
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DONCASTER – NOW OPEN! New Factory Outlet Centre, The Carr, off White Rose Way
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Chechen success boosts Lebed's poll popularity

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S security chief, General Aleksandr Lebed, has surged ahead of his rivals in opinion polls, which showed yesterday that he would win the presidency if elections were held today.

Two separate polls, published in Moscow newspapers, showed that the charismatic former army general was by far the most trusted politician and that on his present form he could reverse June's election results.

In the first round of voting for the presidency, Boris Yeltsin received 35 per cent, Gennadi Zyuganov 32 per cent and General Lebed 15 per cent. In the runoff fought in July President Yeltsin was comfortably re-elected.

However, according to a Public Opinion Fund survey published in *Kommersant*, if the same contestants fought today the result would be reversed. About 25 per cent of respondents said that they would back General Lebed, with the Communist Party leader following closely behind on 23 per cent and the ailing Russian leader trailing in third place with 20 per cent.

Another opinion poll, by the VTsIOM research group published in *Segodnya*, asked which politician was most trusted. Forty per cent named General Lebed. Mr Zyuganov trailed far behind in second place with 16 per cent, followed by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister and presidential hopeful, with 14 per cent. President Yeltsin, who has rarely been seen in public since his election victory, was left in fifth place, with only an 11 per cent trust rating.

Although General Lebed has only been in government as national security adviser for less than four months his successful peace efforts to halt the war in Chechnya have clearly been well received. In the first poll, it was the only area of government policy where the public felt any progress had been made in the first 100 days of President Yeltsin's new term.

In a twist of Russian politics, General Lebed may also have improved his standing, thanks to the daily onslaught of verbal attacks against him from ministers, opposition figures and large sections of the media.

The campaign, which many believed has been orchestrated by the Kremlin, has left the former paratroop commander looking like the underdog fighting against the establishment. His position is similar to Mr Yeltsin's when he fought for and won the leadership in 1991, in the face of a propaganda campaign orchestrated by Mikhail Gorbachev, the then Soviet leader.

"Lebed has made no secret of the fact that he would like to be the next President, and gives every indication of making good his plan," said the *Moscow Times*. "The smear campaign does no credit to its perpetrators and will probably do limited harm to the intended target. This kind of warfare is ill-advised, and counter-productive."

Most of the criticisms have come from General Anatoli Kulikov, the Interior Minister, Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, and Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the ultra-nationalist leader. They have accused of General Lebed of selling Russia out to the Chechen rebels. This week he was attacked for being too soft on Nato during his visit this week to the alliance's headquarters.

Russian soldiers killed

Moscow: Four soldiers were shot dead by their comrades yesterday in an incident that overshadowed a morale-boosting tour of Russia's Far East by Igor Rodionov, the Defence Minister. The attackers, on the northwest Pacific island of Sakhalin, fled with their victims' arms and ammunition.

The incident appeared to highlight the crisis in morale and discipline in Russia's unwieldy and underfunded armed forces. *(Reuter)*



BENOIT DOPPAGNE/REUTER

Emma Bonino outlining her plans to reduce catches of fish by up to 40 per cent

Britain is defiant on fish quotas

BY LEYLA LINTON AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

BRITAIN will not cut the capacity of its fishing fleet unless the European Union acts to stop foreign "quota-hopping" trawlers taking British fish, Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, said yesterday.

Mr Hogg was reacting to a call from Emma Bonino, the European Fisheries Commissioner, for a 40 per cent cut in fishing catches by all EU member states' fleets in the next six years.

Speaking in Brussels before a meeting of EU fisheries ministers in Luxembourg on Monday, Signora Bonino said unless catches were cut "fishing will be reduced to a law of the jungle, and we will see the collapse of the fleets and the end of fish stocks with irreversible consequences".

Mr Hogg, commenting after meeting southwest fishing industry leaders in Plymouth, said that the proposed 40 per cent cut would be "very unacceptable" to the Government. "We will not implement a compulsory reduction in our own capacity until the problem of quota-hoppers has been resolved," he said.

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Gondoliers applaud a little light music

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

TO THE delight of tourists but the dismay of the Mayor, Venice City Council yesterday voted to allow gondoliers and the gondola "balladeers" who accompany them to serenade customers during the day as well as at night.

"This will clog up our canals and make them even more impassable than before," protested Massimo Cacciari, the left-wing Mayor. But the majority of councillors agreed with the Venice Gondoliers' Association that restricting serenading to the evenings deprived its members of potential income.

The changes to the Waterways Code passed by the council will also allow gondolas to punt three abreast. Signor Cacciari said he opposed that idea too, as it would make it even more difficult for waterborne service vessels providing rubbish collection, goods deliveries and firefighting to manoeuvre along Venice's narrow canals.

In January, fire brigade vessels had difficulty reaching the blaze that destroyed La Fenice opera house, partly because canals had been drained for cleaning but also because of sheer congestion.

Around nine million tourists visit Venice each year, overwhelming the 75,000 residents, whose numbers have dropped by more than half since the Second World War.

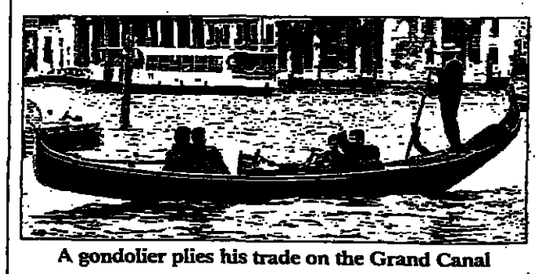
"We are becoming a watery Disneyland for tourists and art lovers," one resident said.

Most tourists — and tour operators — concentrate on St Mark's Square, the Doge's Palace and other central sights, ignoring less familiar jewels of the Venetian heritage. Invariably visitors (especially couples) want to hire a gondola and listen to *O Sole Mio* or *The Blonde in the Gondoletta* as the ancient palazzos and bridges slip by romantically.

Fulvio Scarpa, the head of the gondoliers' association, said that despite the high prices they charged, its members found it difficult to make a living.

In the spring, the council caused uproar when it decided to tax the balladeers and accordion players who assist the gondoliers, classing them as musical entertainers. The two sides reached a compromise under which waterborne entertainers pay a contribution to the entertainment union's pension fund.

Signor Cacciari's office said the Mayor was very concerned by the growing impact on Venice of pollution and flood damage as well as mass tourism. But the gondoliers maintain that the erosion of canal buildings is caused by the water buses (*vaporettos*), which carry 250,000 people each day.



A gondolier plies his trade on the Grand Canal

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Palestinians open new battleground at Temple Mount

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

A NEW archaeological time-bomb is set to explode on Temple Mount, the site holy to Muslims and Jews, when Islamic authorities open a new prayer hall under al-Aqsa mosque which right-wing Jews claim is illegal.

Muslim clerics said last night that they would delay the opening, but this was seen as merely postponing an inevitable conflict.

The cavernous hall, named the Marwani mosque by Palestinians, is in a chamber nearly 2,000 years old, not far from the Israeli tourist tunnel project which last month sparked Palestinian rioting. Seventy-five people died after the Government opened a second tunnel exit under cover of darkness.

Right-wing Jews called on the Government yesterday to prevent the mosque opening in an area known as Solomon's Stables (although it has no connection with Solomon and was built at the time of Herod). The General Security Service, Israel's equivalent of MI5, gave warning of a violent response from Jewish hardliners who revere Temple Mount as the site of the destroyed first and second temples.

The Hebrew daily *Yediot Aharonot* reported that the General Security Service had expressed grave concern over the opening of a mosque at Solomon's Stables. The security service has said that elements on the extreme Right of the Jewish political spectrum, for instance Kach or the Temple Mount Faithful group, might try to carry out an attack on Temple Mount. That could lead to the breakdown of the political process with the Palestinians.

The right-wing Government of Binyamin Netanyahu came under heavy pressure yesterday to seal the mosque site. Yigal Bibi, the Deputy Religious Affairs Minister, accused Mr Netanyahu of treating the Palestinians with kid gloves. However, the Government signalled that it does not intend to prevent the mosque being opened.

The diplomatic role that has been undertaken by President Weizman since last month's rioting was enhanced yesterday with an announcement that he will soon visit Jordan. The announcement followed the publication of an American report that King Husain of Jordan chastised Mr Netanyahu at last week's Washington crisis summit for having "an arrogance of power". Until the opening of the Temple Mount tunnel, the Jordanian monarch had been the only Arab leader to refrain from criticising Mr Netanyahu's hardline policies.

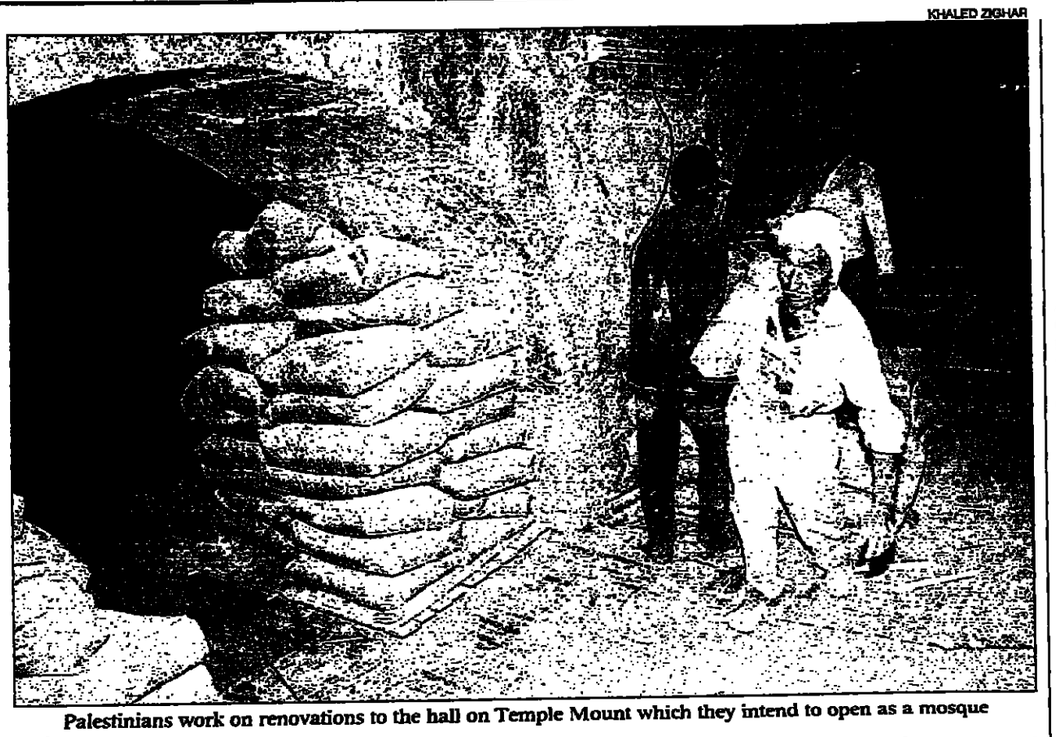
Mr Weizman, whose constitutional role is mainly ceremonial, has emerged as a key player in maintaining Arab-Israeli links. This week he hosted Yassir Arafat; the Palestinian leader, at his seaside villa, and next week will fly to Cairo for a working lunch with President Mubarak.

Temple Mount is the epicentre of the tension because, as well as al-Aqsa, the third-holiest Islamic shrine, it is flanked by the Wailing Wall, the holiest place for Jews. The previous Labour Government gave permission in January for the chamber — whose renovations are only days from completion — to be used for prayers during Ramadan and rainy periods when worshippers cannot pray in the courtyard of al-Aqsa. But Israel did not authorise the chamber's use as a mosque on a permanent basis.

Israeli archaeologists claim that Palestinian renovations, the most extensive on the mount for 30 years, have caused "irreversible damage". They say 15ft columns built at the time of the Crusades were damaged by the drilling of holes for electrical cables.

A spokeswoman for the Jerusalem municipality said a district court order issued on September 3 bars unapproved renovations that could damage the site. Jewish extremists who seek the right to pray on Temple Mount have asked the Supreme Court to enforce the order. But Hassan Tahboub, the Palestinian Minister of Religious Affairs, said that any attempt to prevent the opening would provoke a "massacre".

KHALED ZIGHAR



Palestinians work on renovations to the hall on Temple Mount which they intend to open as a mosque

Asterix answers call of Atlantis

BY BEN MACINTYRE

ASTERIX the Gaul came out of retirement yesterday in a new book with a record print run of eight million copies. He received the sort of tumultuous welcome France reserves for its national heroes.

The new Asterix volume is the first since 1991 and the thirtieth in a series that started in the magazine *Pilote* in 1959 and has since sold 280 million copies in 78 languages.

Asterix and Obelix All At Sea, in which the mustachioed warrior rescues his bulbous friend Obelix from the lost continent of Atlantis, went on sale yesterday in 15 languages after a complex operation to distribute the book throughout Europe without disclosing its contents.

Albert Uderzo has penned six Asterix books alone since the death of his collaborator, the writer René Goscinny, 19 years ago. He shocked Asterix fans in 1994 when he announced, after a long and exhausting legal battle with a former publisher, that he would never write another volume featuring the tiny Gaul. But with the launch of the new book he said: "I do not feel old enough to stop work."

British readers may be particularly taken with a new character, a high priest named Absolutelyfabulus.



The wily Gaul is back for a new adventure

France fetes African statesman

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

AFRICA'S most revered intellectual and statesman, Léopold Sédar Senghor, who was President of Senegal for 20 years until 1980, celebrated his 90th birthday this week in the tiny Normandy village of Verson to which he chose to retire.

Mr Senghor was a key architect of post-colonial Africa and a towering apostle of black culture: the first President of independent Senegal, a post to which he was elected in 1960 and four times thereafter; the first leader in modern Africa's history to stand down voluntarily; and the first black man to be elected to France's exclusive Académie Française.

Verson's streets and shop windows were decorated in his honour on Wednesday with his speeches, poems and photographs. During the village celebrations, the diminutive figure smiled but said nothing.



Senghor: celebrated on two continents

Born in the fishing village of Joal-Fadiout on the Senegalese coast, where more grandiose celebrations were held simultaneously, Mr Senghor was educated in French Catholic schools and studied at the Sorbonne, where he became friends with such luminaries as Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus and the future French President Georges Pompidou.

In the Second World War, he served in the French Army and was captured and imprisoned by the Germans. After the war he was elected to the French National Assembly. Mr Senghor's life in France, from the age of 19 to 40, illustrated the strange position of an African scholar from a colony, at once part of France and separate from it. With Aimé Césaire from Martinique and Léon Damas of French Guiana, he developed the theory of "Negritude", emphasising the beauty of African culture and its role in a world civilisation that would otherwise, as he put it, "lack the rhythm section of its orchestra, the bass voice of its choir".

Mr Senghor returned to Africa and emerged as the Platonic philosopher-ruler of Senegal, maintaining close links with France and paving the way for a multi-party system that came into force two years before he stepped down to make way for "a new generation of leaders".

His "African Socialism" steered a middle course between Communism and capitalism, just as his writings gave a uniquely African perspective to a French sensibility and education.

At Senegal's celebrations, President Diouf described Mr Senghor as one of "a race of empire builders, a pathfinder, a guide who takes you by the hand to lead you up high on to the mountain."

His books and poetry gloried in African culture but it was in the birthplace of his wife, Paulette, near Caen, that he chose to retire.

Unesco's Paris headquarters will host another celebration on October 18, to be attended by President Chirac and President Diouf. Mr Senghor is too frail to make the 120-mile journey.

Madrid pact on pensions

Madrid: In his first real political triumph since taking office five months ago, José María Aznar, Spain's conservative Prime Minister, has brokered a "social contract" with the country's tough trade unions, guaranteeing pensions at present levels until 2000 (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

The deal, which had consistently eluded Felipe González, Señor Aznar's Socialist predecessor, is likely to ward off threats of a strike-ridden autumn of discontent. However, the main employers' associations opposed a pension pact.

Italians imbibing the moderation message

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

ITALIANS are drinking less wine despite their image as an alcohol-loving nation, according to official figures released yesterday.

The government-run Commission for the Study of Alcohol and the Young said there were 13 million Italians over 15 who did not drink alcohol, over a quarter of the adult population. Average wine consumption has dropped from 104 litres per capita twenty years ago to 55 litres.

Anecdotal evidence in the bars and trattorias of Rome and other main Italian cities suggests many Italians are still wedded to their wine culture. Last weekend was marked by numerous harvest festivals in Italy's famous wine-producing areas, with fountains flowing with wine and every available balcony and statue covered in grapes.

On the other hand growing consciousness of health hazards, which has reduced cigarette smoking, is also making Italians more aware of the drawbacks of excessive alcohol consumption.





Taleban forced on to defensive by Afghan troops



Christopher Thomas reports from Kabul on the mounting *resistance* to the Islamic warriors north of the capital

THE Taleban Islamic militia fought off attacks by forces of the ousted Afghan Government on two crucial towns north of Kabul yesterday. The capital's main military airbase at Bagram came under *ground assault: this was also* repelled. But there is mounting concern for the security of Kabul.

The counter-offensive has taken Taleban unawares and its two-year march through Afghanistan has been halted. There are, however, no signs yet of it being forced to retreat — no heavy guns have been used *and its main positions* are intact. Taleban, however, has lost many men from *small-arms fire.*

The United Nations, worried about security in Kabul, is evacuating non-essential staff and the International Committee of the Red Cross is studying its next move. Foreign aid agencies are to meet today to decide what to do.

The mood in the Afghan capital has abruptly changed. *The unaccustomed peace after* 17 years of war has become almost sinister as Taleban soldiers patrol in Toyota pick-ups laden with rocket-launchers and Kalashnikovs. *The* bearded Islamic warriors are plainly upset by worsening news from the north and people are increasingly afraid of them. Ahmed Shah Masood, the defence chief of the former Government, is targeting the towns of Jabal os-Siraj and Charikar, which are on the Salang Highway linking Kabul with the north.

Shops were closed in Charikar yesterday and an anti-aircraft gun was positioned in the main street. A day earlier, there was no gunfire and the town was bustling — an indication of how fast Taleban's fortunes, as well as the public mood, have changed.

General Masood's men are fighting Taleban forces many miles south of the strategic Salang Tunnel, an area held exclusively by the Islamic army until a week ago.

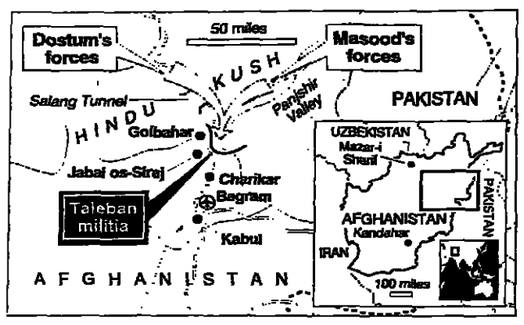
The battlefront is shifting around the two towns and both sides are locked in close combat. *Local people are* afraid that big guns will be brought in.

Gulbahar, at the mouth of the Panjshir Valley, where former government forces have taken refuge, remains under Taleban's control. The *siege of the valley, however,* has stopped now that Taleban has been forced on the defensive on both *battlefronts — at* the Panjshir and the Salang Pass. There seems to be no prospect of the Islamic fighters achieving their dream of pushing north and smashing the remnants of the toppled Government.

General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek leader in the north, is leaving most of *the fighting against Taleban to* General Masood, although there is plainly some kind of alliance between them. If General Dostum were to throw in the full weight of his huge military machine, Taleban could conceivably be driven back to Kabul 40 miles away.

The area around the Bagram airbase north of Ka*bul, held by Taleban, has been* evacuated. Troops walk the streets with their Kalashnikovs, lecturing people about proper Islamic dress and behaviour. They are almost all illiterate: only Taleban's tenuous moral authority stops them turning to the Pashtun tradition of plunder. The mullahs who lead them are mostly *illiterate — the product of madrassas* (Islamic schools) that teach the Koran by rote.

Taleban is angry with foreign journalists, who have been accused of focusing on alleged abuses of women's rights while failing to emphasise that there were massive human rights abuses when Kabul was being rocketed by factions of the former Mujahidin fighters.



GLEN HOWLEY/REUTER



A drunken Cambodian police officer takes aim at a photographer after his patrol boat stopped a Phnom Penh-bound ferry to extort money from the crew. Extortion by the police and military on the country's roads and waterways is endemic, and foreign tourists frequently find themselves caught in the middle

WORLD SUMMARY

Rao faces three charges

Delhi: Citing security threats, P.V. Narasimha Rao, India's former Prime Minister, asked a judge *yesterday to exempt* him from appearing in court on Monday after he was arrested, then freed on bail.

Mr Rao, who resigned in *disgrace as Congress Party* leader last month, was arrested on Wednesday and faces three charges, including criminal forgery, which can carry a seven-year jail term.

Security threats mean he rarely appears in public and is *always guarded by comman*dos with machineguns.

Suicide query for TWA families

New York: Investigators are to question the relatives of victims of the TWA disaster to see if the crash was caused by *someone bent on revenge,* fraud or even suicide (Quentin Letts writes).

It is now almost three months since Flight 800 crashed into the Atlantic off Long Island, killing all 230 people aboard the Boeing 747. Until now investigations have focused on the possibility of aircraft failure or terrorism.

Court likely for *Peking dissident*

Peking: The family of Wang Dan was told by officials to hire a lawyer for him — a *move described by* Wang Lingyun, his mother, *in preparation for a hearing* (James Pringle writes).

Wang, one of the leaders of the 1989 pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square, was rearrested in May last year, having spent four years in jail.

Fire destroys NBC offices

New York: Three hundred firefighters fought a blaze in the GE (General Electric) skyscraperr in Manhattan's *Rockefeller Centre and home* to NBC broadcasting (Quentin Letts writes). The pre-dawn fire spread through five of the building's 70 storeys and injured 11 people. Many NBC offices were wrecked.

Rapist is jailed for 17,088 years

Madrid: A court in Las Palmas has jailed a man for 17,088 years for raping his two stepsons more than a thou*sand times over seven years* (Tunku Varadarajan writes). Judicial experts believe, however, that the man is likely to serve no more than 20 years.

Tomato source

Cairo: A former convict who tried to give tomatoes stuffed with marijuana to an inmate on visiting day has been arrested and sent back to jail north of here after being caught by a guard. *(AFP)*

China says fossil 'is oldest bird found'

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

A FOSSIL more than 200 million years old may be the earliest ancestor of modern birds, Chinese scientists claim.

The fossil was found in *Liaoning Province by a fossil-*hunter, Li Yumin. He took it to the Geology Museum in Peking, believing it to be a dragon. Ji Qiang, director of the museum, determined that the fossil was that of a bird, and the oldest ever found.

The claim was published yesterday in the *China Daily*, and could not be confirmed by Western experts. Dr Angela Milner of the Natural History Museum in London said that in the absence of a proper scientific description she was *unable to offer an opinion.*

The Chinese have given the fossil the name *Sinosaur-opteryx Prima*. In appearance it is closer to a land-based dinosaur, but it has a number of characteristics that prove the evolutionary link with *birds, Mr Ji said.*

"The forelegs show a definite tendency to developing *towards wings,"* he said. The key factor, however, was the discovery of feathery imprints *in the fossil.*

Inkatha men cleared of massacre charges

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN DURBAN

CRIES of delight rang out in the Durban Supreme Court yesterday when a judge acquitted five co-accused in the murder trial of General Magnus Malan, the former South African Defence Minister, and 15 others on the first day of judgment.

Cheers from the packed public gallery greeted Mr *Justice Jan Hugo's ruling that* the five black men, aged between 30 and 33, were not guilty of murder and conspiracy to murder. They had been accused of carrying out the 1987 massacre of 13 people, including five children, at the *house of an African National* Congress supporter in a Zulu village near Durban. Outside the court, Inkatha supporters danced and chanted "Viva, viva" as they mobbed the acquitted men.

As the five walked jubilantly *from the court room, General* Malan, 65, appeared unmoved by the scenes of celebration around him. He will know his fate today when the judge rules on charges of murder and conspiracy to murder against the 11 other *accused at the conclusion of* the six-month trial.

As Defence Minister between 1980 and 1981, General Malan was one of the most powerful men on the continent and his trial alongside nine other military officers, security policemen and members of the Inkatha Freedom Party *had political overtones.*

Questions have been raised about a conspiracy by the ANC Government as the trial has implicated members of the National Party and Inkatha.

The so-called Kwamakhutha massacre seemed unre*solved, like so many others* from the apartheid era, until a task unit was appointed by the Government to investigate hit squads in Kwazulu/Natal.



Malan arrives at court in Durban yesterday

The five acquitted yesterday were Inkatha members who, the State alleged, had carried out *the hit-squad massacre* after clandestine military training for Inkatha by the then South Africa Defence Force in the Caprivi strip.

The State *claimed in the* trial that this was part of a military support programme *for Inkatha against the United* Democratic Front, the internal surrogate of the then banned ANC.

Shortly before the start of the trial, the State brought additional charges of conspiracy to murder which observ*ers said reflected concern that* the prosecution did not have enough firm evidence for murder convictions.

Mr Justice Hugo said yesterday there was little doubt that the attack was carried out by trainees from Caprivi but *ruled that prosecution wit*nesses had not firmly identified the men as being at the scene of the attack, and the State had not proved they had conspired to murder ANC supporters.

The judge said claims by the *men that they thought they* were being trained to work in the Kwazulu/Natal force police had been backed up by a state witness and there was nothing to disbelieve their testimonies.

Money men fix price of war

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

AFGHANISTAN'S state of mind can be gauged in a street alongside the Kabul River, where men carrying foot-high stacks of banknotes wander among a mêlée of carpet sellers, fruit vendors and beggars, shouting: "Money changed".

This is the money market. News and rumours of the ebb and flow of battle variously strengthens and weakens the Afghani, the local currency, which is backed by absolutely *nothing. The central bank is* bombed and empty, the gold reserves long since plundered.

The money market had premises until a rocket destroyed them years ago, and business is now conducted by 20 or 30 cash-laden men amid *the chaos of the street.* Nobody ever attempts robbery, especially under the rule of *the Taleban Islamic militia,* which severs at least one hand of a captured thief.

Lorry-loads of Afghanis used to be delivered regularly to the former Afghan rulers by the Russian Government, which printed them under contract. Since Russia does not like Taleban this no longer happens, and govern*ment money stores will soon* be bare.

On the front of the notes is written "Afghanistan Bank", although it no longer exists. The money market used to be dominated by Sikhs, but they have fled in the face of *growing hostility. Now the* money-changers are mostly Pathans. Each morning they assess the prospects for peace or war and set the rate accordingly.

The Afghani soared to 10,000 for a dollar when it was *felt that Taleban would im*pose nationwide peace, then plunged to 20,000 when it was *feared there would be pro*longed fighting in the north, possibly overflowing into Kabul. Yesterday, with nobody sure which way events were going, it hovered nervously around 15,000.

The money market serves people who receive remittances from abroad as well as expatriate employees of inter*national aid agencies. The* amount of cash carried by a single money-changer is equal to years of earnings by a senior civil servant.

Money-changers are fussy men. They give a higher rate for the latest design of Ameri*can banknotes because they* are deemed harder to forge. And Afghans dislike well-thumbed money: anything dated before 1990 is spurned.

General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek warlord, keeps his people content by *printing his own Afghanis.* Kabul's money-changers have an instinct for Dostum banknotes, which earn less on the Kabul money market, but in reality both types are worthless.



Clarke: facing coalition prospect

New Zealand's baffled voters head for election night without end

FROM JO ANDREWS
IN WELLINGTON

WITH New Zealanders set to vote tomorrow in their first election under proportional representation, it has become clear that no party will win an overall majority and that a coalition will have to be formed.

Sir Michael Hardie Boys, the Governor-General, has said that New Zealand may go into the new year without a new *government. Sir Michael says parlia*ment must meet by December 13. "After that New Zealand virtually closes down [for the summer holidays] so there is no calamity if parliament meets and then adjourns until the new year."

Financial analysts here are also bracing themselves for the possibility of several weeks without a government. "It is going to be messy, we know that from the polls," said one.

The polls suggest that support for the National Party led by Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister, is dropping sharply. The latest figures put support for the *National Party at 30 per cent; Labour,* led by Helen Clarke, at 26 per cent; the left-of-centre Alliance at 17 per cent; and the nationalist party, New Zealand First, at 13 per cent.

Political analysts are in their element. Colin James, one of the most respected commentators, says of the change to proportional representation: "This is the *most difficult transition you could possi*bly have had. Every other change would have been simpler."

Another observer called the new system "the product of theoretical minds, not political ones".

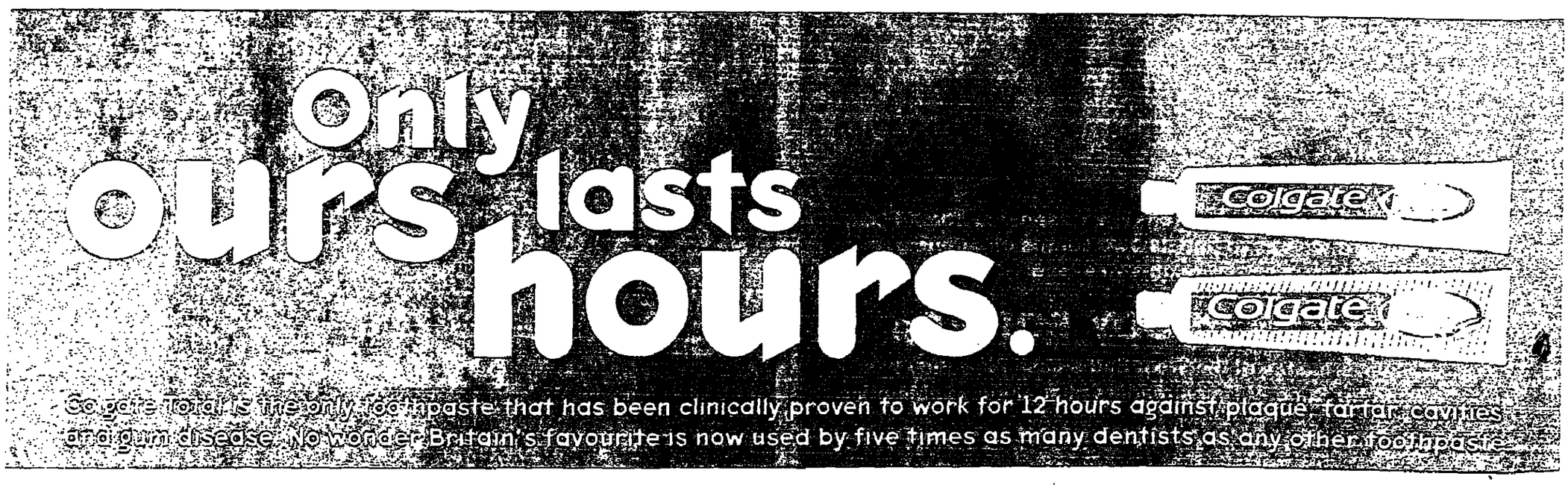
The indications are that New Zealand will end up with a broadly right-wing coalition led by the National Party, or a broadly left-wing one led by Labour. But either party could find itself with an interesting bedfellow.

The National Party might have to do a deal with the Christian Coalition, which is opposed to abortion as a "non*negotiable principle" and talks of "main*taining an upright justice system by defending Judaeo-Christian values".

On the Left, Labour will have to come to terms with Winston Peters of New Zealand First. Mr Peters wants to cut immigration, repatriate migrants who break the law and stop foreigners buying land and other "strategic assets".

Voters appear confused at times with the choice on offer. Under the new system they have two votes, one for their local MP and a second for a party. The second of these are to be counted and apportioned on a national basis.

In Wellington Central there are 25 candidates and 14 parties. At times it is difficult to distinguish between genuine candidates and satirical ones. The Blokes Liberation Front, in favour of sending women out to work while men watch rugby and drink beer, is real, so is the Mcgillicuddy Serious Party, and the *Marijuana Party.*



Dole plays Powell card in desperate appeal to voters

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AFTER Jack Kemp's defeat by Al Gore in Wednesday night's vice-presidential debate, Bob Dole played virtually his last card yesterday. The struggling Republican candidate confirmed that Colin Powell, America's favourite public figure, would be "one of our stars in the new administration".

Mr Dole hoped that his announcement would lend his ticket lustre, but it also smacked of desperation. It was a tacit acknowledgment, 26 days before the election, that he and Mr Kemp lack the appeal to beat President Clinton and Mr Gore by themselves. Mr Dole, who campaigned with General Powell in Ohio yesterday, did not say what post the Gulf War commander would have in a Dole administration, but he would almost certainly be Secretary of State.

One wag billed the 90-minute debate between Mr Kemp, a former Buffalo Bills quarterback, and the famously wooden Vice-President as a contest between a football player and a goalpost, and that was exactly how it turned out. Mr Kemp, animated and prone to hyperbole, did his best to score goals, but the ball kept rebounding off an unflappably solid, impeccably prepared Mr Gore.

ELECTION '96

Three instant polls indicated that the Vice-President had won by margins ranging from 17 percentage points to 29, and 92 per cent said the debate had not changed their voting intension. The debate was widely considered a preview of the presidential race in 2000, and Mr Gore's performance further enhanced his chances of winning the next Democratic presidential nomination.

However, it was less clear that Mr Kemp had improved his chances of winning the Republican nomination. He ignored strong conservative pressure to attack Mr Clinton's character and insisted it was "beneath Bob Dole to go after anyone personally". Indeed, the debate, held in St Petersburg, Florida, was so polite and high-minded that one television anchorman suggested that viewers needed a "speed-yawning course" to get through it. Mr Kemp, an architect of "Reaganomics", passionately promoted Mr Dole's plan to push for rapid growth through huge tax cuts as the solution to America's social and economic problems. It would be more like the "Niagara Falls" than "trickle-down economics", he argued.

Mr Gore repeatedly countered that Mr Dole's "risky" plan would wreck the economy and devastate vital social programmes, including Medicare, the health insurance programme for the elderly. He landed the night's best punch by saying: "The problem with this version of 'Niagara Falls' is that Senator Dole and Mr Kemp would put the American economy in a barrel and send it over the falls."

Mr Gore said the economy was already strong and praised Mr Clinton's much smaller tax concessions for education and homebuyers. He kept Mr Kemp on the defensive by citing past disagreements with Mr Dole and made him wince by recalling his quip that Mr Dole had never "met a tax he didn't hike". When Mr Kemp invoked President Kennedy's tax cut, Mr Gore recalled that Mr Dole voted against it. He congratulated Mr Kemp for having been a "lonely Repuplican voice" in supporting affirmative action to counter racial discrimination and regretted that he had changed his tune when named Mr Dole's running-mate.

Republicans hit sour note

BY TOM RHODES

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN, the rock star, has accused Bob Dole of of purloining his hit, *Born in the USA* without permission.

A month after copyright laws forced Mr Dole to drop the long-established theme tune of the Republican campaign, Mr Springsteen said, in a letter to the *Asbury Park Press*, the local newspaper in his native New Jersey town: "I'd like to make it clear that it was used without my permission and I am not a supporter of the Republican ticket."

Last month, the campaign agreed to drop the Isaac Hayes classic, *Soul Man*, (rewritten as "I'm a Dole Man") after Rondor Music International warned the Dole camp that it could be liable for up to $100,000 (£64,000) for each unauthorised use of the song.

Subsequently, Mr Dole appeared in front of numerous black students at Washington University in St Louis accompanied by *Play That Funky Music, White Boy*.



REX FEATURES

Strom Thurmond, 93, a tearful warhorse making carefully selected appearances in his last election campaign

Senator bids for 100th-birthday seat

FROM TOM RHODES IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

STROM THURMOND — 94 on December 5 — has returned to the Old South for a final campaign that he hopes will make him the first centenarian senator in American history. He arrived in Charleston's semi-tropical suburbs for the first in a rare series of public appearances, clasping hands with a carefully selected and fiercely loyal collection of the Republican faithful.

One man had mown his lawn as a child, he knew another's grandfather, and remembered the teacher who had taught the elderly woman in the corner. No one sitting under the lazy fans and faded Southern chandeliers could say they had no connection with the legendary warhorse, now fighting for an eighth six-year term in the Senate.

And that was exactly as his handlers wished. If age is considered an issue in the American presidential campaign, it is the single factor in this race for South Carolina where Thurmond aides have designed a strategy of carefully chosen appearances, limited exposure to the media and a blanket refusal to debate Elliott Close, his Democratic opponent who, at 42, is more than half a century the senator's junior — and trails him by 14 points.

At the Woodlands Resort, the "Thurmondator" — an affectionate allusion to the indestructible Terminator made famous by Arnold Schwarzenegger — listened intently to the loyal plaudits. He steadfastly refuses to wear a hearing aid. Finally he shuffled to the podium to deliver a brief and, unusually, unscripted, address whose emotional conclusion was clearly heartfelt.

"He [Close] has got so much money and he is running so many ads. I want to continue to work," he said in tears. "I have given my whole life to this state. Now I am at the zenith of my power, I hope you will send me back."

The statistics of his service are formidable. He first won elective office the same year that Herbert Hoover was elected. Hoover won the presidency in 1928; Mr Thurmond became a county superintendent. He has served with about a fifth of the 1,826 people who have been members of the Senate since 1789, his age is 45 per cent of that of the Constitution, he was born 37 years after the end of the Civil War and elected Governor of South Carolina when President Clinton was in nappies. During the Second World War he flew to the Normandy landings in a glider from Newbury.

He is already the oldest senator in history and would become the longest-serving member during a new term, due to start in February.

Mr Thurmond confronts age as he always has, maintaining a daily 50 minutes of calisthenics, exercise biking, swimming, weights, healthy food and no alcohol.

In an idiosyncratic career he has been Democrat and Republican, a segregationist presidential candidate and conservative campaigner for civil rights, and the first Southern senator to employ black staff. In essence, he is a living monument to the changing fortunes of his state.

Hungry python kills owner

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A NEW YORK teenager was crushed to death by his pet python after he had failed to keep the snake properly fed, police reported.

Grant Williams, 19, was found unconscious in a pool of blood, the life practically squeezed out of him by a 12ft Burmese python named Damien, which was still wrapped over his body. The snake had been given nothing more than a single dead chicken in the past week and may have been crazed by hunger.

Mr Williams was found in the hallway. He may have been trying to escape the flat to summon help. Medical orderlies summoned the strength — of body and of mind — to lift the 45lb, 5in-thick python off Mr Williams and hurl it into an adjacent room, but the snake lover died in hospital.

At the time of the attack, Mr Williams was preparing to feed Damien a live chicken. It is possible that the python, peckish, opted for the larger prey. When on the brink of a kill, the Burmese python (*Molorus bivattatus*) can move with deadly speed, and there are few creatures able to escape its grasp.

Mr Williams may have suspected that his familiarity with Damien placed him above danger, but a hungry python does not quibble about such niceties. Captain Thomas Kelly, from the 46th precinct, said: "It looks accidental."

Mr Williams and his brother kept a number of snakes, many uncaged, in their Bronx flat. The dead man's mother, Carmelita Williams, said that she had tried to persuade her son to abandon his hobby. "I begged him to get rid of the python," she said, weeping. "I even threatened to call the police."

Damien was last night caged at an animal control centre, after being fed. Its fate is uncertain.

Alaskans given winter solace

BY GILES WHITTELL

AS THE long nights of winter fall over Alaska, so do the cheques from the Permanent Fund. Every man, woman and child tough enough to live all year in America's far north was yesterday sent a $1,130 (£725) thank-you note by the local government.

Bars, banks, airlines and snowmobile dealers braced themselves for their busiest weekend of the year as frontier folk from the Aleutians to the polar ice cap prepared to go shopping with the annual windfall. What began in 1982 as an experimental use of surplus oil money has become a mainstay of Alaska's unusual economy. This year's payout, the largest yet, represents 5 per cent of the average Alaskan family's income.

It is an especially useful boost for Eskimos whose Arctic villagers begin a sort of hibernation at this time of year. As the Mayor of Kaktovik, 200 miles north of the Arctic Circle and 300 miles from the nearest paved road, noted yesterday: "Six months of darkness is not the ideal business environment."

Set up when oil began flowing through the Alaska Pipeline in 1976, the Permanent Fund grew rapidly thanks to the state's royalty on every barrel. Now standing at $20 billion, half the interest goes on annual dividends while investment means the principal continues to grow even as oil runs out in the Prudhoe Bay field. This offers an incentive to live in Alaska despite worsening job prospects.

"The only income I get is from the fund," said Chris Behnke, 13, savouring the last of the autumn sunlight in the town of Palmer at the foot of Mount McKinley. Last year he used the money to buy a set of bagpipes.

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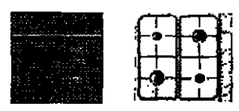


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The great escape



Sailing to wider horizons: Wendy Richardson, Patrick Phelan, John Bankart, Sacha Crooks, Ellen Arnison and Sophie Thomas. All they have that many of us do not, is the guts to leave a dull life behind on the dockside

Everybody has dreamt at some time of running away to sea from a humdrum life. **Giles Coren** meets six people who had the courage to follow that dream

Last month, in *The Times*, we revealed that Holiday Hangover Syndrome was sweeping the nation: people have been returning from abroad, it transpired, even less willing to work than before they left. Psychiatrists, managers, and time-and-motion men united to shatter the ancient myth that a fortnight's break refreshes the jaded worker.

The response was enormous. From all over the country readers wrote in to agree with the diagnosis. "You keep saying you will pack it all in," wrote one, "but time goes on, you slot back into office life, and it never happens. No matter what you say, you never actually do it."

Well, funnily enough, some people do.

There is a boat, moored at Southampton, called *Creichtons Naturally*. The skipper, John Bankart, worked in menswear retail for nearly ten years before seeing the light and running away to sea. The boat is crewed by a farmer, a nurse manager, a journalist, an electrician and a computer systems project manager. They all — apart from one — left work for a short holiday, and never went back. The odd one out, by the way, is rather miserable about working again.

The boat is owned, furthermore, by a dentist called Stuart Bowen-Davies, who sold his network of practices to sail the world — the ultimate statement in down-sizing.

Life aboard is mellow. After a summer in Southampton, taking day-tripping businessman out on the solent to "unwind", they are off to the Canary Islands in the next few days, and then on to the Caribbean for Antigua Race Week.

There is little to pressure them, virtually nothing to irritate. Except for one thing. "It is the suits who come on for a day and tell us how lucky we are," says 25-year-old Sacha Crooks, speaking for all of them. "It is not luck at all. The more I see of these people the more I realise how miserable their lives are. And there is absolutely nothing to stop them doing the same as us."

Sitting around the table in the small cabin below deck, each of them told me how they had come to their big decision. For one it was a moral issue, for another it was boredom. For one it was insatiable wanderlust, for another it was a way out of an ailing business.

Dissatisfied with the quotidian humdrum, all they had that the rest of us do not, was the guts to leave it all behind.

Their stories could have been — could still be — yours.

SOPHIE THOMAS, 40
Former nurse manager

I had been a nurse for 17 years, and a nurse manager for the past five of those. I was working 60-70 hours a week, and earning £28,000. I enjoyed my work but was finding my employers in the NHS more and more out of kilter with my own moral values. I was just talking about money all the time.

I wouldn't have left on purely moral grounds. But a holiday in Australia in 1993 changed my life — largely, I think, because it takes so long to get there that I had to take four weeks off work to do it.

I came straight back from Australia into a weekend of tedious management games and I thought to myself, "what am I doing here?" It was like one of those dreams when you find yourself naked in Tesco and have no idea how you came to be there.

I had always planned to give up work at 40, and it had become something of a running joke. But while sailing in Antigua in 1994 I met Stuart Bowen-Davies and said: "You'll need a cook, and someone with medical experience." I got back to England in a cold May and thought "I can't hack another dreary English summer" so I handed in my notice, and when I got home there was a fax on my desk from Stuart asking if I still wanted the job."

I earn much less than I used to and I sometimes go six weeks without a day off. It is the only job in the world from which someone could say: "I might have to go back to nursing to get some money together." I also have two broken relationships — the last man said that if I was going to spend another year away then he wasn't waiting — but I'd rather do this than be a housewife in Chiswick.

SACHA CROOKS, 25
Former farmer

I grew up in the countryside around Ipswich, did a degree in agricultural management and then worked on a succession of farms and building sites. Last year and I found myself working on the same farm I had worked on every year since I was 12.

The future seemed to hold 90-hour weeks for £13,000-a-year as a farm foreman, and I decided that if I was going to work long hours for terrible money it might as well be doing something I enjoyed, so I decided to move to the Canaries. While looking for a passage across, I was offered a job on this boat.

I now earn only £60 a week. But I have board and lodging, and at sea the cash doesn't matter. I have chosen lifestyle over money — some days you might be working 23 hours on the boat, but when the weather is good you can sit out on deck and boost your tan.

Relationships are difficult to sustain with this way of living. But my girlfriend is coming out to the Caribbean for a while, and will stay on the boat. As for the future, I can say with my hand on my heart that I will never be a farmer.

ELLEN ARNISON, 29
Former journalist

A spell of yacht racing last summer led me to my decision to chuck in my job as News Editor of the *Big Issue* in Scotland. There had to be more to life than what is going on in the newsroom.

I was doing some subbing on the *Daily Star* in Scotland after that and knew that I would never want a career in newspapers — it is a very over-rated profession. I got a delivery job to the Caribbean where I met *Creichtons Naturally* and travelled back as cook.

I now earn less in a week than I used to earn in a shift, but my quality of life is so much better. I do a lot of reading — we all do — and I plan to write fiction on board, too.

I have come to realise that you can live your own life any way you want: Nothing should prevent you from doing your own thing.

PATRICK PHELAN, 33
Former electrician

I had a small yacht-fitting business which was making very little money, and I was sick of doing the same thing every day, struggling to make ends meet.

At first it was meant to be a year's break, but I can't see myself settling down again in the near future. I enjoy the long passages most of all. You just settle into a rhythm — you feel very independent. I am half curious about what is happening to my country (South Africa). I have been away more than two years.

WENDY RICHARDSON, 33
Computer systems project manager

I left school at 18 and went straight to work in Lloyds bank as a computer programmer. I just didn't see that you could do without a car, a house, a mobile phone, a personal computer.

The change came when I sailed to Rio in 1994 as a paying guest on a 23-day passage, and came back with a totally different frame of mind. I decided it was no good talking about giving it up, you have to go for it. And I went straight back.

While I was out there I decided to end my relationship of 12 years — going away on your own forces you to make some tough decisions — so I came back, on this boat, to end it. I am buying up his part of our mortgage so I am having to put the sailing on hold while I earn some money. It may be forever, perhaps not. Who knows?

JOHN BANKART, 37
Former shop manager, and captain of the yacht

I went into menswear retail at 18 in a shop in New Zealand, where I lived, and worked my way up to senior sales manager.

I was earning about A$50,000 but eventually realised that I was spending 60 hours a week working to have five hours sailing on a Sunday. When I decided to jack it all in my friends said: "What, and give up your career, your car, your life insurance schemes? What will you rely on?" My response was: "If I need all that, then what am I really living for?"

Heading off for the South Pacific in a mate's catamaran, I got caught in a storm for six days and the boat broke up. In the six weeks it took to repair the boat in Antigua I did my yachtmaster's certificate. I will never work in retail again. In fact, I can't even go into a shopping mall anymore. I say "stuff it all", life is out in the wide blue yonder, nothing but me and my boat. I have no worries, no car, just a house in Brisbane and a motorbike — no ties at all. If I suddenly decide I want a wife and a dog and a little house on the prairie, then I will do that.



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Professor James Mirrlees is finally tracked down — and explains his passion for mysteries and micro-economics

The strange case of the elusive laureate

MICHAEL POWELL



Professor Mirrlees: "Things fall into my lap . . . I live a charmed existence . . . I am not sure that I have ever applied for a job in my life"

I had read that the new Nobel laureate of economics was fond of "reading detective stories and other forms of mathematics" and for a while I thought I was taking part in *The Mystery of the Missing Professor. Bidden to Cambridge* to meet Professor James Mirrlees, I arrived — slightly late owing to a dearth of taxis at Cambridge station — at his hall of residence, an outpost of Trinity College.

The porter telephoned his room. No answer. But he is expecting me, I said. We are to have supper at the Three Horseshoes in Madingley. Here the detective story took on overtones of Tom Sharpe. The porter said he would ask the manciple of Trinity whether the professor had dined in hall; the manciple reported that he had not. We persisted in our inquiries.

The local radio station reported that the professor had been there, but had left at 6.45pm. Perhaps he had gone straight to the Three Horseshoes? Yes, they said, the professor had booked a table for 7.30pm — but had later telephoned to say that his guest had missed her train, and that he might not make it at all! The plot thickened.

Throughout the evening, we continued to telephone the Three Horseshoes, and the professor's room. I read all the notices on the board in the porter's lodge: the menu for dinner in hall (poached salmon and duchesse potatoes), the lists of those awarded fellowships (including one for "research into the history of ideas"), and the instructions from the Housekeeper to the gyps (college cleaners and bedmakers), which included the warning: "Some ladies are getting a bus which gets you in college about 7.30am. Please strain from doing this. Students do not wish to be woken at 7.00 or 7.30 by bedmakers chatting . . ." Well! I pondered *on the pampered life of the undergraduate* compared with the dismal obligations of the working hack.

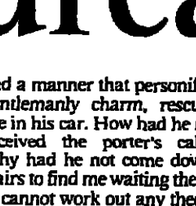
The porter suggested I take the college bus to Trinity Great Court, where the head porter would ring round all the 34 colleges and ask whether Professor Mirrlees had been seen. The bowler-hatted porters of Trinity found this notion predictably hilarious. "It would be like finding a needle in a haystack," said one with a fine turn of phrase.

Eventually, mystified, I made for *the last train home, after a final plea to the porter* to put my card under the professor's door before going off duty. The last train arrived. I boarded. The whistle blew. We were about to draw out of the station. Then my mobile telephone rang: I leapt from the train. "Professor! Where are you?" "I am here, in my room," replied Professor Mirrlees, in his imperturbable Scottish burr, "where I have spent the entire evening."

And so the Nobel prizewinner, who has whitish hair, a round, benign, boyish face and a manner that personifies *gentlemanly charm*, rescued me in his car. How had he not received the porter's calls? Why had he not come downstairs to find me waiting there? "I cannot work out any theory for why it happened," he replied ruminatively. "I took some fish out of the fridge at 9pm."

So we talked through the midnight hour in the University Arms Hotel (our order, a malt whisky for him and a glass of champagne for me, completely stumped the bar staff. A long search produced a lukewarm dram of Pommery; and would the gentleman like ice in his malt?). We spoke of taxation, the "diversion" of the minimum wage, the alternative of employment subsidies, the dramatic increase in income from private pensions — as a micro-economist the professor sees things in terms of individual households — and of course, his prizewinning economic theory of "incentives under asymmetric information" i.e. "making decisions in a situation of imperfect knowledge". "That just means not knowing as much as you would like. It is a term of our art, shall we say."

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



Unlike a Hayek or a Galbraith, he has written no best-selling books. "I am not a book writer; I find it too hard." *Could he explain to me simply* his theory about tax? "I could put it in a diagram," he said, waving a hand. The gist of it is that progressive rates of taxation may harm incentives and efficiency; a zero tax rate on the highest incomes would be an incentive to work harder. If we knew that our higher earnings would be untaxed, we would all be more industrious, instead of thinking "why bother?".

The professor had been preparing a lecture on Tuesday, when the telephone rang and a Swedish voice imparted the good news of his prize. "The speed of communication now is quite weird. It took me ten minutes to walk across the faculty and by that time my son-in-law had already seen it on his screen at Kleinwort Benson, where he is an analyst."

Professor Mirrlees was born in Minnigaff, Kirkudbright, elder son of a bank manager. His grandfather started work at seven; his father at 13. His younger brother left school at 16, but emigrated to Canada and rose to become a vice-president of the Royal Bank of Canada. Young Jim knew from boyhood that he was cut out for the academic life: When the Rector of his high school in Newton Stewart asked him at 15 what he wanted to be, he replied: "A professor of mathematics."

In undergraduate days at Cambridge (after a first degree in mathematics in Edinburgh) he met his wife, and was a pillar of the Student Christian Movement, the radical, politically-conscious wing of undergraduate Christianity. Wanting to do good in the world, he went out to India, working at Massachusetts Institute of Technology's centre in Delhi, co-authoring the Manual of Industrial Project Analysis in Developing Countries. His professor at MIT, Paul Samuelson, an earlier Nobel prizewinner, was one of the first to fax a letter of congratulation this week.

Though Cambridge is keen to claim its laureate, much of the professor's most important work was done in his years at Nuffield College, Oxford.

But two years ago his wife died of breast cancer, which was partly why he was keen to leave the Oxford house where they had brought up their daughters, and why he now lives in his bachelor rooms. With characteristic modesty he said he thought it "ridiculous" that Cambridge had offered him a chair at his age (he has just passed 60) instead of to some lively young mind.

His approach is beaming, even jocular: "You enjoy paying tax, don't you, thinking of all the good it will do . . ? Would you vote for a system that squeezed the poor but left you very well off? It wouldn't please me when I was a Christian and it wouldn't please me now." (Professor Mirrlees ceased to be a Christian in about 1970, but seemed reluctant to elaborate on his reasons.)

He is, you may surmise, a Labour Party man, but not a new Labour guru: one of his former students at Oxford assumes that role. "I have never voted for any other party. Because of a desire for egalitarianism, not for any great fondness for public ownership." He has no qualms about the shedding of labour that follows de-nationalisation: "People will get employed *doing other things. That is the* faith of economists which non-economists *find hard to* believe: there will be other jobs somewhere else."

That afternoon Peter Lilley had been talking again about the cost of benefit frauds. "That sounds like the Tory party at bay," said Professor Mirrlees, beaming. "Fraud is probably inescapable: another of those imperfections I like. If you pay money to the poor, you have to identify them. If you cannot do it perfectly, then you have to live with the problem. And if it is hard to get the money to the poor, then perhaps you have to spend more to get it to them.

"There's a long-standing economic theory," he added, "taken up by the political scientists, that there is no significant difference between the two main parties. Thatcher moved the Tory party to the right, which created more space for Labour; Labour maximises its vote by moving further into that space, pushing the Tories into a corner, as they hope they are doing. There is no serious risk of losing votes from the far left, but I think they have been induced to worry that even when things are looking good for them, they can still lose an election."

He will go to Sweden for the prizegiving on December 10 with his daughters — one an accountant, one a statistical psychologist on the British Crime Survey. The Canadian octogenarian Professor William Vickrey, whom he admires but has never met, will share the $1.12 million cheque; an untaxed £308,500. ("In America, Nobel prizes are taxable, which is not unreasonable.") He already considers himself handsomely reimbursed. "When I left Oxford I was earning £50,000, which was certainly more than I required."

He is a man of simple needs. *Just books — the detective novels of Rex Stout, P.D. James and John Dickson Carr* — and music for his piano. He travels when invited to lecture, this year in Barcelona and Seville. "I thoroughly enjoy that side of being an academic.

"Things fall into my lap," he said contentedly. "I am someone who always finds a parking place, as my family will tell you. I live a charmed existence. *The World Bank will* ask me to attend a conference, and they pay decently, and things like that keep coming along. I am not sure I have ever applied for a job in my life."

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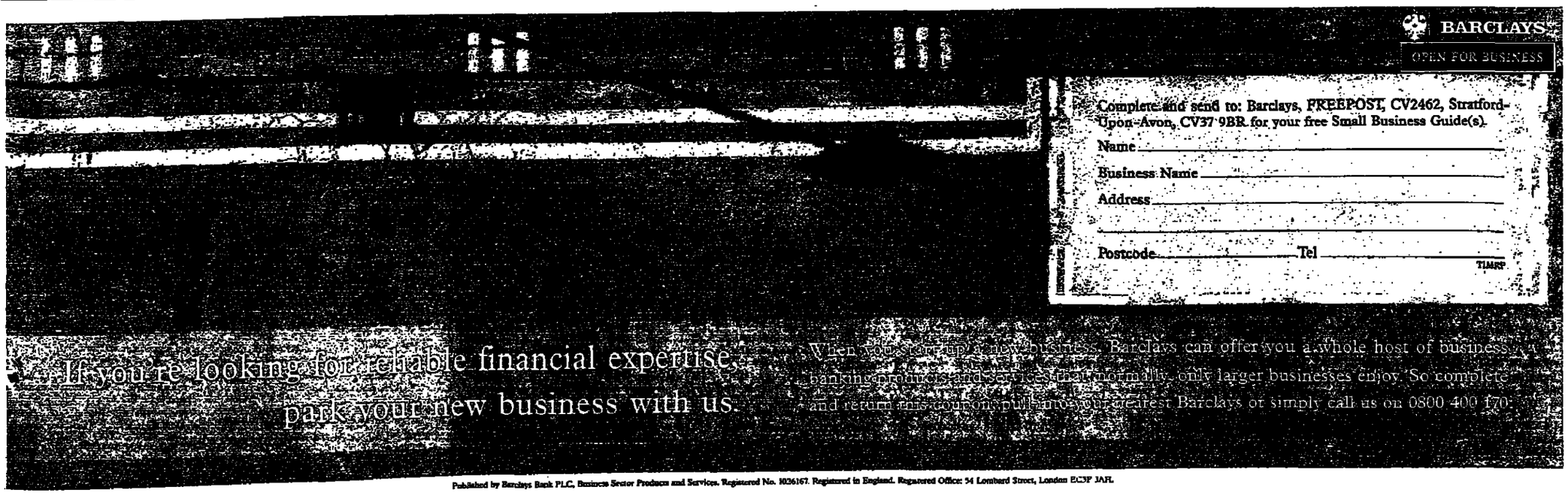
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Philip Howard



■ How frolics and romps lost their innocence at our hands

I am *poised* to *crackdown* (*clampdown*?) on *this shock frolicking* and *cavorting* in the newspapers. This has been moved to the *front-burner* this week by the Princess Di spy video hoax. The Chairman of the Press Complaints Commission has written to *The Times*, *rapping*, *slamming* and possibly even *lambasting* (in a lordly way) the practice of videoing *sex romps* in a semi in Wandsworth and then passing the *frolics* off as having taken place at Highgrove in horsy Gloucestershire. But the vocabulary as well as the activity is interesting. *Sex romps* has been a tabloidese euphemism for ages, unusual because the phrase is longer than *sex*, the word it represents. But *frolic* and *cavort* are recent recruits.

They are true journalese. For nobody other than newspaper sub-editors would think of *using the words in their new meanings* — yet. There is, however, some evidence (sociological as well as empirical) that readers of newspapers pick up the short, sensational language of headlines, and start using words such as *rap*, *probe*, *oust* and *quit* in real life off the page. In theory there should be no such dialect as journalese. Newspapers should be written in all the *various registers of everyday speech* and writing. And a big newspaper has many voices, that vary in style from sports to its law reports, and from columnists to leading articles. But only short words in the big type of headlines fit the narrow width of columns without "busting". So *grab* fits better than confiscate, and *axed* rather than dismissed. And the need to grab the attention of readers *in the rush-hour* demands vivid words rather than precise but boring ones.

Even the common intensifier "very" is an attention-grabbing word. There was a time when "very" was forbidden in *The Times*. And this might be a good rule to restore. "Very" hardly ever strengthens an adjective and often exaggerates. A very cold wind is in all probability only a cold wind; not Arctic. We might save two or three columns a year by excluding "very". But in giving up "very", we should not turn to "most" or "highly" or similar intensifiers by way of compensation.

Cavort was originally a horsy word from the Wild West, possibly a corruption of *curvet*. So its application to the activities in the video scam was exact. *Frolic* is a much older Teutonic word, originally meaning to make merry or gambol. Samuel Johnson was engagingly fond of both the activity and the word. But when he wrote: "My mistress laughs, and frisks, and frolics all day long", he surely did not have in mind the innuendo of the journalistic use. Nor was there any of the shorthand nudge-nudge-wink-wink when Johnson wrote: "She was a better romp *than any I ever saw in nature.*" But Johnson's bluestocking friend, Hester Thrale, could no longer reply to him. "Gentlemen romped with the girls of the house", without the risk of being improperly misunderstood.

By a mischievous coincidence, Steve Norris, the former Minister of Transport, is reading his autobiography on the radio for late-risers at the Tory conference. Apart from raising the question of how a fairly clever man does not have the self-awareness to see that his memoirs of a *romper*, both serial and synchronic, make him out to be an ass as well as a cad, Norris introduces a selection of the sexual euphemisms of journalese, including *rumpy-pumpy*. Scholars hesitate to derive this. Perhaps it comes from *romp*.

Journalese does exist, and can be useful, though the careful writer thinks twice before using it. Like all jargons, it is shorthand that saves time and covers a multitude of sins. It conveys hidden meanings and tone of the message, and gives the reader the comfortable feeling of being at home in stock royal *bonking* story No 94. It serves much the same purpose as conventional epithets in epic poetry. There Achilles is swift-footed every time he makes an entrance, and you cannot meet Thetis without being told for the umpteenth time that she is silver-footed as well as the daughter of the Old Man of the Sea. And as in newspapers, so in epic there are stock stories. In the former, "KILLER DOG STORM DRAMA", and in the latter, "They stretched out their hands to the food lying ready." The epic poets were using stock building blocks of oral poetry. So the journalists are using stock themes and phrases to tell their stories.

Robert Cranborne says Parliament must adapt, but any reform of the Lords must include the Commons

Don't unbalance our unwritten constitution

The last 350 years have been a great age of constitution writing. Virtually every constitution has proceeded from a declaration of first principles to a pretty detailed set of mechanical arrangements which attempt to remain consistent with the first principles.

To my mind this approach is fraught with difficulty. Man is not a perfectible beast, so how can a declaration of first principles itself be the embodiment of perfection — unless it has been drafted by God, not man? If the first principles are faulty, then the mechanical arrangements will be even faultier, because, however hard we try, they cannot but imperfectly reflect the principles from which they are derived. There is therefore a built-in gearing effect that magnifies the faults in the transmission from principle to application. Equally, the system is inherently inflexible by definition when changing times demand constitutional evolution.

There is another difficulty too. Constitutions of this kind are the creation of governments. Citizens are thus, by definition, the servants of the State, because their freedoms are bestowed upon them by the State. Those freedoms are defined by the government and the constitution. Their rights are given them by the State.

The British approach has been fundamentally different. Lord Donaldson put it far better than I could in the course of a wonderful speech he made last year in the House of Lords:

> In this country our approach to human rights is, and always has been, different from that of many others. It is a difference of which I personally am very proud. It lies in the fact that in this country the citizen does not have to identify any right to justify his conduct. He has a total freedom of conduct unless restrained by law; and it is for those who complain of his conduct to identify which law it is which interferes with his freedom. He has no need of a list of freedoms, or rights of freedom. He has them anyway.

It occurs to me that we may be the only man on parade in Europe who is in step. The only things that constrain the freedom of the Queen's subjects are the Common Law and the provisions of statute.

An unwritten constitution is by definition flexible. You need only pass a law to change it. It assumes that the status quo is not perfect because to change it is easy if there is a parliamentary majority for doing so. Evolution, rather than revolution, is built into the system. Evolution also ensures a sense of continuity and a sense of history, so important for a sense of nationhood.

Continuity, evolutionary change, electoral authority — these add up to flexibility. This means that we can always change to meet new challenges. We do not need constitutional *dirigisme* any more than we need economic *dirigisme*.

Dead men are the ultimate authority for written constitutions. It is hardly surprising that we find it difficult to express the needs of today in the language of the dead. But in Britain the ultimate authority is the living electorate. It gives Parliament the right to exercise sovereignty and to allow the Government to exercise power, and, if necessary, to adapt the constitution to the circumstances of the day. The electorate is the guardian of Burke's compact between the dead, the living and the yet unborn.

I am more doubtful, however, about whether Parliament has yet adapted to the demands of today. The Prime Minister drew attention to some of what worries me in the lecture on the constitution that he delivered with such enthusiasm this summer. If the principles on which Parliament is founded are sound, there is clearly dissatisfaction about how they are applied.

Opponents of conservative principles fasten upon this dissatisfaction and use it to justify proposed constitutional reforms, which are based at best on the *corporatism of the 1960s* and the details of which they signally fail to elaborate. (I am increasingly inclined to think the question the electorate should ask of Mr Blair is: "Yes, we know you are in favour of motherhood and against sin, but what would you put in the Bill you laid before Parliament?")

We Tories can be satisfied that our constitution is soundly based and suitable for the coming century. At the same time, it is not good enough to rely on the great Duke of Wellington's approach to matters constitutional. To suggest that our present arrangements are the embodiment of perfection is profoundly un-Tory, since we believe neither in the perfectibility of man nor in that of man's creations. To go on from there to suggest that we should preserve the constitution rather as English Heritage preserves a Grade I listed monument is equally unwise.

We would be better advised to look at the way our arrangements work in the light of modern life, and determine whether further evolution is in order. There is nothing new in this approach. In the late 1950s and early 1960s it informed an entirely successful reform of the House of Lords.

Some people badly want to reform the Lords further. I am not opposed to this in principle. After all, any reform of the House of Lords will increase its authority at the expense of the House of Commons. However, the present House of Lords works well, and I should like to be convinced that any changes will make Parliament as a whole work better. In this, you cannot consider the two Houses separately. They are complementary and interdependent. So if any future government wants to reform the House of Lords, it is important that it should look at reform in the context of both Houses of Parliament, rather than taking the crass and ignorant approach that the Labour Party has adopted.

This is an extract from the Politeia lecture, delivered last night at Bournemouth by Lord Cranborne, the Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords. The full text will be published by Politeia as a pamphlet.

God, me and Dr Dawkins

Scientists don't know and nor do I — but at least I know I don't know

Bernard Levin

Once again, I marvel when I see a copy of *Index*, and I marvel even more when I see the name in full: *Index on Censorship, the Magazine for Free Speech*. The reason I marvel is that each of its yearly six issues manages to cram so much into 192 pages, photographs and all. Now for those who have not encountered *Index*, let me tell you that its title means what it says, and that includes lands in which a mere spoken or written few words can come close to death, let alone 192 pages. One section of *Index*, in every issue, gives a complete alphabetical list of countries in which there has been censorship: from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia . . . to Uruguay, the USA, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

But *Index* does much more. It takes, for instance, one country, and looks deeply into that country's state of democracy, if any. And it takes up the cases of many innocents who are in, or about to be in, prison.

I have written about *Index* before; but I have never hitherto dared to poke my nose into what I have never seen in *Index* — for the simple reason that *Index* has never dared to poke its nose into the subject. And what is it that makes *Index* go tiptoe over the ice, and makes my eyes to gleam? Look at the cover: in large letters, it announces the remarkable claim that *God Is Not Dead*.

There will be fireworks by nightfall, I tell you, and first into the arena is John Tusa (not a man to see angels in the sky), who strikes the gong with "They say *God is dead. Why won't He lie down?*"; Tusa continues with his own magnificent catalogue:

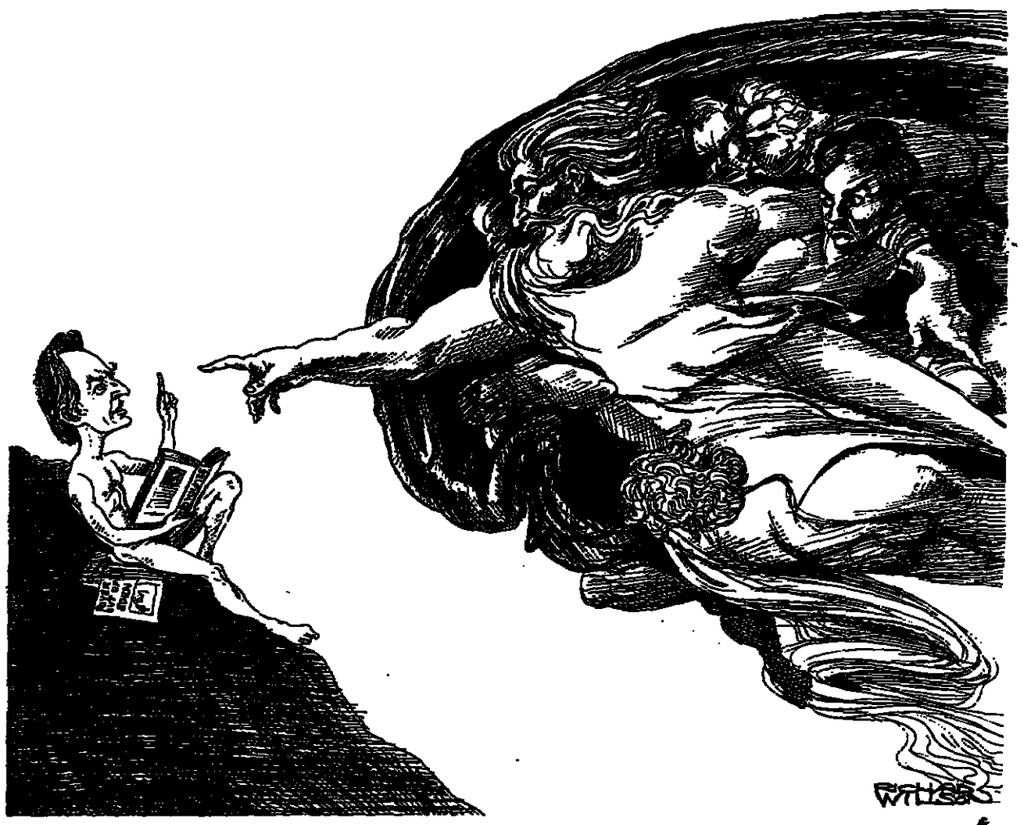
> Marx derided it as a delusion; Freud regarded it as immature delusion. Scientists dismissed it as unverifiable fantasy; humanists as evasion of grown-up confrontation with life. Religion should, on these terms, have had little or no part to play in the life of the late twentieth century. A belief in Progress now replaced a belief in Paradise tomorrow. Science could prove that the "answers" offered by religion were untrue, and that faith could not move mountains, nor would mountains come even to latter-day Mohammeds. God's protection was conspicuous by its absence in the trenches of the Somme, in the gas ovens of the Nazi extermination camps, and in a score of other twentieth-century atrocities. Jesus might have told his disciples to "suffer the little children to come unto me", but, in our more enlightened times, the emphasis seemed to be more on the suffering and not on the protective embrace offered by the Saviour.

All that is true, yet as the millennium comes closer, not only do the waves of belief remain, but they swell more greatly and come ever closer. This is not a matter of larger families, let alone a fear of the millennium itself, as the same fear rose a thousand years ago at the last millennium. It comes from the depths of actual religion in its reality, however thin. But that does not answer the question. If more people are moving towards their churches and their mosques and their synagogues, what is the reason for that trek? The Chief Rabbi has put it concisely, saying, "I don't think there would have been a single social observer in the year 1900 who would have predicted that religion and religions would be as strong in the world today and, indeed, even in the liberal West, as they are." Very true, but the reason is more important than the fact, and the fact is still to be found.

The argument — is there a God or is there not? — is raging, and that can hardly be a coincidence. What has provoked this most tremendous of arguments? Well, for one, the people who take their religion most seriously, are, of course, of the religion of Islam. It is a wonderful religion, but it is notoriously marred by the savage and dreadful fanaticism that some of its people stoop to. (It is raging dreadfully as I write.) But then, to soften the wound, what about a tiny phrase that leaps out of the Koran: "If all the trees in the world were pens, and all the oceans ink seven times replenished, still the word of God could not be written"?

I come back to the argument that is raging: Is there a God? Well, a great part of the raging comes from Dr Richard Dawkins, who does not believe that there is, or could be, a God; but I think Dr Dawkins shouts too loudly when he makes his powerful case against God. Mind you, he is a distinguished scientist, and he takes his argument seriously. For instance, a bus turned over and many people were killed or injured. Dawkins considered the tragedy:

> If the universe were just electrons and selfish genes, meaningless tragedies like the crashing of the bus are exactly what we should expect, along with equally meaningless good fortune. It would manifest no intention of any kind. In a universe of blind physical forces and genetic replications some people are going to get lucky . . . There is at bottom no design, no evil and no good, nothing but blind pitiless indifference.



A powerful argument, but sometimes it turns into farce, as when we are told by a professor of chemistry at Oxford, Peter Atkins, that "It is not possible to be intellectually honest and believe in gods. And it is not possible to believe in gods and be a true scientist." Never mind that some of the greatest scientists in history, not to say many of the scientists working today, *do* believe in God; but when I read such stuff I cannot but think that some of those almost hysterical claims are, buried five fathoms deep, the opposite of what they screech — that is, they believe despite themselves, but cannot admit it. (And never mind that hundreds of millions of people all over the world, with no orders or demands, pray to a god.)

Now where do I stand in this catalogue? Well, obviously not in the ranks of atheism. Dr Dawkins makes a persuasive case, but writhe as he might, he can only say that there is but blind pitiless indifference in the universe. Actually, he is automatically cheated; if he is right, and there is no God or anything else, he can't say "I got it right", because he will be dead. And if he is *not* dead, he got it wrong. There are many, of course, who deride those who pray, and yet on their deathbed ask for the rites. I would not think of jeering at such turncoats; rather, I would applaud.

Dr Dawkins must shake his head wearily when he surveys the huge numbers of worshippers in our sacred places, but he must come close to bursting when he wonders (though of course he doesn't) about the enormous numbers of religions that there are in our world, from the Christians and Jews and Muslims all the way to M'Shimba M'Shamba. He would reply, of course, by saying that what goes for Christianity goes for any other religion; but don't the sheer numbers count?

Never mind Dr Dawkins for a moment. Why is there today such a substantial discussion of religion and its effects? Yards and yards of columns in many papers discuss the idea of God or brush it aside, or gingerly put a toe in the water and find that it doesn't hurt. And after all, the 60 pages on the subject in *Index* ranged from the United States to Russia, and from India to Israel, and from Algeria to Afghanistan. True. I am evading the question. I am asked: where do I stand when I see men and women going into churches, mosques and synagogues, and shuffle my feet and look the other way.

Of one thing I am certain: I do not, and never will, line up with the Dawkinses and their wafer-thin certainties. And if I did stop shilly-shallying and come off my very low horse, I *think* I would be throwing down my glove on the doorstep of the Anglican persuasion. But I am evading the question again. I am convinced that there is more to our tiny spot called life, and that somewhere, somehow after death, we live again. I like the Buddhist idea of repeated reincarnations until all the dust of humanity is burnt away. (Wouldn't it be a lark if Dawkins were turned into a Buddhist and took millions and millions of incarnations to get the message?)

Well, if God is not dead, He is making a considerable stir. I am eager to see whether these substantial arguments that we have been treated to will continue or peter out. Ask Ecclesiastes: "All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full."

Backslappers

BORED of attacking the BBC, the Conservatives have turned their rage on ITN. In Bournemouth on Wednesday afternoon, following ITN's lunchtime bulletin, Dame Sue Tinson, ITN's associate editor, was collared by Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman.

She was informed of the Prime Minister's deep displeasure with ITN's coverage of his question and answer session on Wednesday morning. Certain good soundbites were not included and particularly offensive was the reporter's line: "John Major took off his jacket in the style of Tony Blair."

After her earwigging, the order went out from Tinson to the guilty young reporter to sort out the problem — or else he would not be admitted to ITN's party that evening. Later reports took into account the chairman's comments, and the Prime Minister duly graced the ITN party.

As the PM touched and giggled his way round the party, however, the lights went out, plunging the marquee into darkness. The Prime Minister's goons swarmed around their ward until the lights came on. Dame Sue then called to one of her reporters and told him that if the situation arose, he was to dive in and take the bullet for the Prime Minister. She was greeted with low mutters and something about short straws and loyalty beyond the call.

● *No one can accuse Ted Turner, businessman, of nepotism. He has just sacked his own son, Robert E. "Teddy" Turner IV. Turner Snr., who founded CNN before marrying Jane Fonda, employed his son as the promotions manager for the home video unit of Turner Broadcasting System Inc. With rumours about job cuts in the air, Teddy grew anxious and finally broached the subject of his career at a family dinner. His father's response was rugged: "You're toast." So now Teddy is just another victim of corporate downsizing.*



"I was told the Estonian team had signed it"

Cloth to fit

LATEST client at the shrine of high Tory tailoring, Redwood & Feller in London, is the Shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown.

Mr Roland of Redwood & Feller makes suits for Douglas Hurd, Ian Lang and perhaps most famously cuts Bill Cash's go-faster pinstripes.

"I was telephoned and told that a very important person wanted some alterations done to his suits," Roland told a customer recently, "but he was too busy and important to come into the shop. Blimey, I thought, I make suits for a lot of important people and they all come in. This one must be some Sheikh or the Prime Minister or something.

"I was asked to come to this VIP's flat, which I don't often do. When I arrived and Mr Brown emerged, frankly I was crestfallen."

Brown is having to have his suits taken in after shedding pounds in his recent fitness drive.

Shirty!

WITH ministers removing their jackets at every opportunity at the Tory conference, shirts have taken on a new prominence. John Major, it emerges, wears shirts from Marks & Spencer.

They cost about £25 and are chosen for him by Norma, doubtless with input from their son James, an employee of M&S. The Prime Minister used to be renowned for never taking enough shirts on foreign trips and borrowing those of his former press secretary, Gus O'Donnell.

Asked about their leader's invariably white shirts, Tony Blair's officers replied simply: "Mind your own business."

Lion king

LOVE rather than dung vapour is in the air at London Zoo, where the female Asiatic lion, Ruchi, has been matched up with a mate once more. She has been alone since the demise of Arfur, the Hugh Hefner of the lion world. Jake, a stud from Chester Zoo, has been brought in to entertain Ruchi. Since their first meeting on Tuesday, their attentiveness to each other has not been a spectacle for the bashful.

"When we opened the door she just threw herself at him," says Douglas Richardson, assistant curator of mammals. "They've been inseparable ever since. And she's not even properly on heat yet. When that happens, probably in a couple of weeks it'll be very noisy around here."

All being well, the pair's goatish behaviour will culminate in cubs by the new year.



Brown: unexciting

Sisterly

TELEPHONES in the Vatican press office have fallen silent recently. Not, however, as a result of an ebbing interest in the Pontiff's recovery after his appendix operation, but because concerned callers have found they get a far less guarded account from the nuns on the Vatican switchboard.

The multinational and multilingual sisters are, it appears, far more expansive about the Pope's condition than the tightlipped press office. Calling the Holy See yesterday afternoon, one of the nuns on duty, a German, verged on the garrulous as she gave a full account of the Pope's condition. "His Holiness is capable of doing everything: walking around speaking and of course a great deal of praying."



Nun so informative

● *Tony Blair has been busy writing to Labour Party members extolling the virtues of new Labour's "five early pledges" on policy. An accompanying leaflet details the pledges — all six of them.*

P·H·S

THE GREASY POLE

In Bournemouth, the interests of ambition and loyalty coincide

This week, publicly at least, the Tory party has rediscovered its discipline. The very same representatives who cheered Lord Tebbit on the fringe gave Kenneth Clarke a standing ovation yesterday in the conference hall. "Unity, unity, unity", in Michael Portillo's words, is the main aim. But it is a funny sort of unity, meaning different things to different people.

To John Major, and to the activists who are fiercely loyal to him, it means casting aside divisions on Europe, rallying around the thin Cabinet line on a single currency and joining forces to attack Labour. To Cabinet ministers with their eye on the leadership election after the general election, it means proclaiming eternal devotion to Mr Major now, in the fairly sure knowledge that he will not be leader this time next year.

In past years, it was important for leadership contenders to show how different they were from the Prime Minister — after all, in any contest, they would have to challenge him. Now the calculation has changed. Mr Major can be treated like an ailing granny, indulged because he will not be around for long. The pretenders will be fighting each other, not him.

Luckily for the Prime Minister, his interests and those of the ambitious colleagues who surround him coincide. He needs their support. They are happy to lend it because next year, if he loses, they will be rewarded for loyalty, not treachery. He needs public unity if he is to have a chance at the next election. They too want to maximise the number of Tory seats: none wants to be leader of a much diminished party. And, should the unthinkable happen and the Tories win again, they would rather be Cabinet ministers in government than a leader in opposition.

The difference between this year's conference and last is not that dissension has ceased to exist. On the fringe, there is still passionate support for Euro-sceptics who oppose the single currency and sometimes even call for complete withdrawal from the EU. But in the hall, these feelings are no longer whipped up by sceptics from the Cabinet. Mr Portillo was notably low-key yesterday, after two consecutive years of firebrand anti-Brussels speeches. Both Peter Lilley and Michael Howard attacked Europe, but were careful not to overstep the Cabinet line. Even John Redwood has been muted this year.

There is still a sense, though, that the candidates are auditioning in Bournemouth for the role of leader. They deliberately stray from their departmental briefs. They end with rousing perorations about "Britain united", "our historic mission", "a great society", a "British renaissance". Implicitly, the audience is invited to imagine them standing in John Major's place on this day next year.

If these ministers were genuinely loyal, they would not be contemplating defeat. They would be talking of a fifth term, peppering their speeches with hints of the manifesto to come, as the Tories always used to do in the conference before an election. Instead, the furthest they have lifted their eyes in public is to the truncated Queen's Speech next month. In private, they assume defeat and talk readily of the merits (and otherwise) of their rivals for the top job.

The Conservatives have become the hollowed-out party. Mr Major's desire for unity is heartfelt. So is that of his activists, even if they are dissatisfied with their party's policy on Europe. The Prime Minister and his troops are genuinely fond of one another. But in between lies a group of politicians who are thinking of their own prospects, not his. To them, Mr Major is the past; the future might just be theirs.

HADRIAN'S CANAL

Is there a need for a white elephant to cross the Pennines?

Anything that reduces the thunder of lorries through Britain's loveliest villages and spurs economic regeneration in depressed areas deserves scrutiny. The ambitious proposals, submitted yesterday to the North of England Councils Association, for a £6 billion scheme to build a cross-country ship canal linking Carlisle to Newcastle upon Tyne should therefore be looked at seriously. Derek Russell, the retired engineer leading the consortium that is proposing the Western Water Highway, claims that the new lakes it would create in the Pennines would also boost local tourism and create 300,000 jobs.

The scheme is certainly ambitious. Cutting a gorge through the Pennines roughly where Hadrian built his wall, it would use the latest canal and lock technology and perhaps revive waterways throughout Britain. The scheme would be a bold plan to revamp Britain's infrastructure at a time when lack of vision and the constrictions of tight Treasury funding have virtually killed the initiative for the kind of big scale engineering works that gave us Britain's canal network almost 200 years ago.

Unfortunately, the proposal is utterly impractical. The first, and most basic flaw, is that there is no proven need. As David Werner points out in our letters columns, there is only modest traffic between the Irish and the North Seas, and no serious need for a short cut from the Irish Sea to the Continent. The suggestion that Newcastle could win a new role as an *entrepôt* at a time when traffic patterns will increasingly be determined by the exploitation of the Channel Tunnel and the road links to ports in the South East is to fly in the face of economic and demographic sense.

Secondly, the cost is out of all proportion to the proven benefit. The canal would be a white elephant far larger than any such species engendered by the Humber Bridge. Mr Russell has indeed drawn attention to the poor existing transpennine links: but for a fraction of the money his consortium would spend, the road and rail links could be upgraded. There is a perfectly good but underused line that runs from Newcastle to Carlisle via Haltwhistle; with new container technology, the line could be adapted, if necessary, to allow piggy-back traffic to move from the west coast to ships sailing to Scandinavia and the Continent. The plan for a parallel motorway also undercuts the very *raison d'être* for the canal: if that much capacity is added to the east-west route, the canal itself will be superfluous.

The premise that such a canal would revive water transport in Britain is manifestly untrue. British canals, unlike those in France, Germany and the Low Countries, are too few and too narrow to play more than a marginal role in freight transport. A few, such as the Manchester Ship Canal and the recently opened canal between the Humber and Leeds serve specific cities; but there would be no point in building a fleet of deep-draught barges and intermodal facilities if there is no national network which these could also serve.

Finally, there is the damage the scheme would do to the environment. This should not be an absolute veto on every new project: not every open space or breeding ground can always be protected. The canal would not cross any standing sections of Hadrian's Wall. But to threaten, if not destroy, the shallow waters of Morecambe Bay and the Solway Firth would ruin the habitat of 300,000 native and migratory birds. The pink-footed geese are worth saving; this lame duck of a project is not.

DEUTSCHEMARKS AND SPENCER

Coronation chicken, sandwiches and lingerie hit Germany

The Schildergasse in Cologne will never be the same again. The thoroughfares of Germany with their regulated and protected stores have finally been hit by Margaret Thatcher's favourite institution — Marks & Spencer, as well as one of her best dishes, coronation chicken. Already dark rumblings of protest from the domestic retail market suggest that they know the game is up. The final triumph of St Michael, patron saint of pre-packed sandwiches, soft clothing, and distinguished green plastic bags, is now merely a matter of time.

For once, the British have stolen a march over Herr Kohl and his federalist cohorts. Soon Germany will be flooded with the soft ECU, Extremely Comfortable Underwear. The presence of our flagship company on the Continent has been established for some time. In France, the fashionable classes have long been seduced by *Les Marks and Sparks*. While it cannot be claimed that the Gallic fashion houses have been swept aside, the sandwich section of the empire is all the rage. No self-respecting Parisian would be seen buying the traditional baguette when the *chic* prawn sandwich option is available instead. The microwave meal *pour deux* is to be seen at the tables of the Latin quarter. However, until today the nearest outlet to Germany has been Strasbourg; now the Rhine has been crossed.

The especially admirable aspect of the M&S strategy is their refusal to bend to local sensibilities. The store in Cologne will be virtually identical to those in Cardiff or Coventry. It has developed a new slogan especially for the German market - *Kein Kaufhaus, Weltanschauung* - not a department store, but a world philosophy. The German staff have been flown over to Britain to ensure that they are schooled in the traditions of M&S. Among their duties will be to demonstrate to the *Hausfrau* not only the differences in cuisine, but also the finer points of British customer care.

They will, no doubt, take trouble to explain the origins of a Christmas pudding as oppposed to the traditional *Stollen*, and the staff may well learn lessons from customers about the frugality of *Abendbrod*, the evening meal consisting of slices of German bread and salami or cheese.

The company could be a role model for the Conservative Party in its quest for a European policy capable of widespread consensus. For Marks & Spencer is a microcosm of the sort of single market Thatcherites might applaud. In Britain, the store's shelves now heave with Italian olive bread and interesting Greek starters providing a range of choice unknown even a decade ago. Now Germany will benefit from the new cultural experience this branch of M&S will bring, and will be able to enjoy a taste of real European integration, far more meaningful than political treaties and bureaucratic edicts. Today M&S opens on the Rhine; next stop, perhaps, the German capital, Berlin.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Fudge' and 'appeasement' on single currency options

From Mr P. J. Claridge

Sir, The Prime Minister's statement of his position on a single currency ("We must not allow EMU to be fudged", October 5) ended:

If we decide to go ahead in the next Parliament we would consult the British nation in a referendum and accept their verdict. If we think it right to stay out, we will do so.

So, no referendum if a Conservative Government decides against joining.

In his desire to appease the present sizeable anti-single currency constituency and to draw the electoral sting of Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party, Mr Major appears either to have overlooked, or deliberately ignored, the possibility of the balance of opinion swinging in favour of joining a single currency when the time comes to decide.

In what he rightly calls "one of the most important economic and political choices to face this country in decades" should not the electorate be given the opportunity to override the Government's choice — whatever it may eventually be? Fudge, Mr Major?

Yours faithfully,
P. J. CLARIDGE,
Leylands, 20 Ham Road,
Wanborough, Wiltshire.
October 8.

From Mr Jeremy Grindle

Sir, Anyone involved in negotiation is aware of two principles: if you start by stating publicly your unalterable commitment to one position, then your influence will be minimal; if the terms on which negotiation will be concluded are greatly in doubt, then you cannot evaluate in advance the benefits and costs to your own organisation.

When one sees the way in which the views of our European partners are evolving, it seems blindingly obvious that "negotiate, wait and see" is the correct policy. Those who urge that we should decide before negotiations are complete have lost sight of these simple principles.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JEREMY GRINDLE,
Viking Cottage, Shore Road,
Bosham, Chichester, West Sussex.
October 8.

From Sir Anthony Meyer

Sir, Mr Malcolm Rifkind says in his speech to the party conference that there are no Conservative federalists.

I am certainly not the only Conservative who believes that those things which are best done at European level should be done at that level; that those things which are best done at national level are best done at that level; but also that those things which are best done at local level should be done at that level.

When this concept is expressed in an institutional structure it is called federalism, and I support it.

I am, etc,
ANTHONY MEYER
9 Cottage Place, SW3.
October 9.

From Sir Peter Marshall

Sir, Mr Redwood (article, October 7) is surely right to point to the scope for determined British diplomacy in the present European situation.

EMU devotees throughout Europe must be acutely conscious of the vulnerability of the Maastricht enterprise. But they will not readily heed valid British criticisms of it if we say in effect that we are not going to join anyway.

The realities of interdependence put us inescapably at the heart of Europe. We are not simply agitated bystanders. We share the vital common interest in the fruitful evolution of the European Union. This will not be helped by attempts to distort the facts to fit the letter of the treaty.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MARSHALL,
26 Queensdale Road, W11.
October 7.

From Mr Christopher Johnson

Sir, Simon Jenkins (article, October 9) says that my book, *In with the Euro, out with the Pound*, is not convincing. He argues that the economic benefits of a currency union "can be achieved by sovereign self-discipline". Why does he think that the sovereign United Kingdom can suddenly practise self-discipline when it has manifestly failed to do so for the last half-century?

The Bank of England's recent attempts to control interest rates have been overruled by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as is provided for under the post-1992 monetary regime. The European Central Bank, while accountable to politicians, will not be subject to this kind of political override. If Simon Jenkins wants to make use of Occam's razor and cut out unnecessary entities, he should apply it to national currencies.

Yours etc,
CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON,
39 Wood Lane, N6.
October 9.

Plans for English 'Panama canal'

From Mr David Werner

Sir, Your report on the plan for an English "Panama Canal" linking Carlisle to Newcastle upon Tyne (October 7) properly emphasises the enormous ecological threat that this scheme poses to a large and precious part of the English countryside. It did not, however, seriously address the economic feasibility of what is in my view a preposterous and unnecessary project.

Such freight volumes as can be realistically predicted for the waterway deny it any prospect of viability let alone its suggested capacity to create 300,000 jobs.

The modest traffic between the North and Irish Seas is adequately handled by existing road and rail links which could be cost-effectively improved if any need arose. One should further ask how Mr Dennis Russell's consortium intends to finance not only the construction of the canal but the associated undertakings of a new motorway running the entire length of one of Europe's most beautiful coastlines, and the demolition or enlargement of major bridges.

As for a "shortcut route from the Irish Sea to the Continent", one must seriously question whether Newcastle, several hundred miles west of Denmark, really fits the bill. The English Channel, south-eastern ports and, increasingly, the Channel Tunnel will continue to be in an unassailable position, for both economic and geographical reasons, as conduits for freight between Britain and Europe.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WERNER,
34 Clyde Road, N22.
October 7.

Breast cancer drugs

From Dr Ian Kunkler

Sir, In a report on October 2, "Victims of breast cancer 'denied life-saving drugs'" you quote Mrs Margaret Ghilchik, director of the breast unit at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, as talking of "lazy" surgeons and radiotherapists who prescribe tamoxifen instead of anti-cancer drugs after surgery for breast cancer.

Mrs Ghilchik suggested that "surgeons had been trained to perform mastectomies or to remove lumps from the breast and radiotherapists had been trained to shine X-rays on patients' scars". Neither is looking at the biology of the disease, she said.

Laziness is not the problem, in my view. Studies in the UK have shown that failure to offer appropriate chemotherapy to women with breast cancer is largely due to patients not being referred for a non-surgical oncologist's opinion.

Consultant radiotherapists and oncologists increasingly work as part of multi-disciplinary teams, with specialist breast surgeons, to select appropriate treatment after breast surgery to reduce the risk of recurrence.

The recent Calman report on cancer services seeks to ensure a uniformly high standard of specialist care for patients with cancer by establishing an integrated network of cancer units (mainly based in district general hospitals) and specialist cancer centres, the latter offering a comprehensive range of cancer services.

The establishment of this network requires virtually doubling the numbers of consultant non-surgical oncologists. Unless there is the political will to fund this expansion, regional variation in cancer care will persist.

Yours faithfully,
IAN KUNKLER
(Consultant radiotherapist and oncologist),
Western General Hospital,
Crewe Road, Edinburgh 4.
October 4.

From Professor Michael Baum

Sir, Mrs Margaret Ghilchik is wrong in ascribing breast cancer high mortality to "lazy" surgeons unwilling to prescribe immediate post-operative chemotherapy. Firstly, surgeons should not be prescribing chemotherapy; that is the role of the medical/clinical oncologists who should be part of the multi-disciplinary team working alongside the surgeon.

Secondly, immediate short-term post-operative chemotherapy was subject to a number of intensive clinical trials nearly a decade ago and failed, despite an attractive hypothesis.

Thirdly, trials of tamoxifen given between two and five years after surgery have demonstrated a 25 per cent reduction in the risk of breast cancer deaths over a 15-year follow-up and the drug is effective in all groups apart from those pre-menopausal women whose tumours do not contain the oestrogen receptor.

Fourthly, and most encouragingly, since 1985 there has been a substantial fall in breast cancer mortality in all age groups. This antedated the NHS national screening programme and is almost certainly due to the widespread adoption of tamoxifen for post-menopausal women and prolonged combination chemotherapy for pre-menopausal women.

Finally, Mrs Ghilchik's biology is out of date. We now believe that the metastases (secondary tumours throughout the body) existing at the time of diagnosis in a large percentage of women are not actively growing but have the potential for stimulation and growth by ill-judged intervention.

The new approach to the management of breast cancer will be an attempt to maintain these secondaries in a dormant state prior to surgery with simple biological therapies. The Cancer Research Campaign clinical trials group is planning to launch such a study early in the New Year.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL BAUM
(Chairman, UK Co-ordinating Committee for Cancer Research, Breast Cancer Sub-Committee),
University College London Medical School,
Department of Surgery,
Charles Bell House,
67-73 Riding House Street, W1.
October 3.

Breeding success

From Mr John Gudgeon

Sir, The encouraging news you reported from the RSPB (news in brief, early editions, October 7) concerning breeding success of some of our rarer large raptors needs to be seen in context. In the case of the golden eagle, for example, typically three-quarters of this year's young will die before they reach breeding age in five years' time.

Larger species commonly raise but one chick per year. Some of them, including golden eagle, are highly vulnerable to disturbance and the length of the breeding cycle is such that, if the first attempt fails, no second attempt is made. There is no room for complacency.

Yours sincerely,
J. GUDGEON,
2 Clackclose Road,
Downham Market, Norfolk.
October 7.

Jude's obscure origins

From the Editor of Dorset *magazine*

Sir, Your review of the film *Jude* (Arts, October 3) is generally fair both to author, Thomas Hardy, and director Michael Winterbottom. It would be incorrect, however, to suggest any unfaithfulness in Mr Winterbottom's rejection of "twee" Dorset for his settings.

Jude the Obscure himself lived far from Hardy's "Inner Wessex". His home at "Marygreen" was based on that of the author's paternal grandmother, which was at Fawley, near Wantage, in Berkshire. The "Brown House" on the downs (actually the Red House) has since been demolished (*Hardy's Wessex Locations*, F. P. Pitfield, Dorset Publishing Co, 1992).

At any event, it is doubtful if Winterbottom could have created a suitably austere canvas with authentic locations in what now comprises London's green belt. Edinburgh also makes a far more convincing 19th-century Oxford.

As for Kate Winslet's performance, Hardy would have warmly approved — given his old-age infatuation with Gertrude Bugler as the stage Tess.

Yours sincerely,
RODNEY LEGG,
Editor, *Dorset* magazine,
Poundbury Farmhouse,
Dorchester, Dorset.
October 4.

National Grid

From Mr Peter McGregor

Sir, Mr Andrew Young has a point when he suggests that excessive profits in the electricity transmission business should be used to bury the overhead lines which are so obtrusive (letter, October 9).

Much is made of the difference in cost between high voltage underground cables and overhead lines (the sort of figure quoted by the electricity supply industry is typically that the former cost is twelve times the latter) and indeed it is obvious that air is a cheaper insulating and cooling medium than underground alternatives.

When I was a supplier to this industry I pursued this matter of cost and was told that the impact on generation and transmission costs would be about 3 per cent, a figure which I suspect most people would gladly pay to get rid of the wirescape.

A year or two ago I had the opportunity to put this directly to David Jefferies, Chairman of National Grid, at a meeting of the Royal Society of Arts, at which he was emphasising his company's concern for the environment. He did not question the figure.

Yours faithfully,
PETER McGREGOR,
Dacre Cottage,
Longworth, Oxfordshire.
October 9.

Football crazy

From Mr Julian Arthur

Sir, You publish today a photograph of Scotland's winning kick-off against zero men of Estonia.

It shows the Scottish no 6 with arms held high above his head in triumph, complete with clenched fists.

Whatever will he do if Scotland wins a match when the opposition turns up?

Yours etc,
JULIAN ARTHUR,
Ivy House, Main Street,
Follifoot, Harrogate, Yorkshire.
October 10.

Business letters, page 29

No longer royal

From Professor Stefan Ionescu and Professor Mihaela Ionescu

Sir, Further to Mr Brooks-Baker's letter (October 2), we note that your report of September 23 on the marriage of Princess Margarita of Romania to actor Radu Duda referred to the Princess's mother, the wife of ex-King Michael, as Queen Anne. This is quite incorrect.

Anne de Bourbon-Parma married Michael one year after he abdicated at the end of 1947. In *Burke's Royal Families of the World* (1977) she is listed as Princess Anne, and in America, England, Romania and France she is almost invariably referred to thus. She was never crowned.

Under Romanian law any member of the royal family who marries a Romanian commoner must obtain the permission both of the Government and the head of the family. Margarita has obtained neither. Her father gave up all rights for his heirs when he abdicated; and he lost his status as head of the family when he was defeated by his older brother, Carol, in the Portuguese Supreme Court in 1955, the French courts in 1957 and 1963, and in the Romanian courts in 1995.

Both the Government of President Iliescu and the opposition party leaders have stated that they have not given Margarita permission to use her former title, so she has tragically forfeited that right.

With esteem,
STEFAN IONESCU,
M. J. IONESCU,
Historical Literary Agency,
25 Cristofor Colomb Str,
Bucharest and Iasi, Romania.
October 3.

Missing guide

From Mr Peter Townend

Sir, At the foot of his letter of October 2 Mr Brooks-Baker describes himself as Publishing Director of *Burke's Peerage*. I can only wonder why he does not direct someone into publishing this book again.

I was the editor of the last *Burke's Peerage* (1970) and of two volumes of a *Burke's Landed Gentry* series which ended in 1972 — since when silence. Whatever the fate of the House of Lords, or indeed of the landowning families, these volumes are invaluable reference books for historians, researchers, the law, etc.

It is difficult to understand why 25 years have passed without them. I am sure there would be people ready to put up the money for such projects, and also people willing to work on them, as is proved by the continued existence of the equally useful *Who's Who* and *Debrett*.

Yours faithfully,
PETER TOWNEND
(Social consultant, *The Tatler*),
36 Chelsea Towers,
Chelsea Manor Gardens, SW3.
October 3.

Gambaccini's exit

From Ms Maureen Jenkins

Sir, I was surprised to hear Paul Gambaccini's name mentioned in the various celebratory programmes last Sunday on Radio 3 during its tribute to the 50th birthday of the Third Programme and Radio 3 (see also article, "Radio 3 shouldn't be what it used to be", October 2).

If the shameful episode of Paul Gambaccini leaving Radio 3 — taking away his American accent after displays of hatred and prejudice from some listeners — had occurred 50 years ago one might comprehend it, but for it to have happened in this multi-cultural age is both shocking and incredible, and blights the festive atmosphere of the Third's 50th birthday.

Yours faithfully,
MAUREEN JENKINS,
20 Beach Way, Jaywick Sands,
Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.
October 2.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Common men?

From Mr C. R. F. Arkwright

Sir, Like John Major and Tony Benn, I too have chaired a question and answer session in my shirt sleeves (report, October 10); the only difference was that Mr Benn and I weren't Prime Minister at the time.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES ARKWRIGHT,
Lowndes Lambert House,
Friary Court, Crutched Friars, EC3.
October 10.

Lady Lavery

From Mr Ben Moore

Sir, A story circulated around the North of Ireland many years ago described how Lady Lavery (letter, October 1) on one occasion attended some glittering social function unaccompanied. On giving her name at the door of the salon the Belfast Master of Ceremonies smiled kindly and told her that it was "second on the left".

Yours truly,
BEN MOORE,
Greentree,
15 St Margaret's Road, Hereford.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 10: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh today attended a Service of Inauguration of a Memorial Stone to Innocent Victims in Westminster Abbey and were received by the Dean (the Very Reverend Michael Mayne).

During the Service Her Majesty unveiled the Memorial Stone and The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh subsequently laid a Wreath.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, this afternoon gave a Luncheon at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President and Honorary Life Fellow, Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, this evening presented the 1996 Albert Medal and attended a Dinner at 8 John Adam Street, London WC2.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 10: The Princess Royal, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, today attended a Council Meeting at Saddlers' Hall, Gutter Lane, London EC2.

KENSINGTON PALACE

October 10: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present today at the Barbican Hall at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

KENSINGTON PALACE

October 10: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, National Asthma Campaign, this morning attended the Asthma Gift Fair at the Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6.

In the afternoon Her Royal Highness, Patron, National Missing Persons Helpline, attended a Service of Thanksgiving and Hope at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street and subsequently was present at a Reception at St Bride's Institute, London EC4.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

October 10: Princess Alexandra this afternoon opened Phase II of the Woking Community Hospital, Heathside Road, Woking, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey (Mr Richard Thornton).

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Lincoln to open the new University of Lincolnshire and Humberside at 11.15.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of Farms for City Children, will visit Wick Court, Overton Lane, Arlingham, Gloucestershire, at 10.30 to launch a book, Sam's Duck; will visit Young Homeless Projects' community projects at 66 St Paul's Road, Cheltenham, at 11.45; and, as President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, will attend the Warwickshire crime reduction programme at the Parents and Adult Literacy Centre, Hob Lane Church of England Infant School, Hazel Grove, Bedworth, at 1.35.

Princess Margaret will visit NSK Bearings (Europe), Peterlee, County Durham, at noon.

Memorial service

Lord Daresbury

The Mayor and Mayoress of Warrington attended a service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord Daresbury held yesterday at St John's, Walton, Warrington. The Rev W.J. Highton and Canon J.O. Colling officiated.

Lord Daresbury, son, and the Hon Thomas Greenall and Edward Greenall, grandsons, gave readings. Mr Andrew Thomas gave an address. Among others present were: Molly Lady Daresbury (widow), Dr the Hon Gilbert and Mrs Greenall (son and daughter-in-law), the Hon John Greenall (son), Lady Daresbury (daughter-in-law), Oliver Greenall, Toby Greenall, Freddie Greenall and Alexander Greenall (grandsons), directors, employees and pensioners of the Greenalls Group and many other friends.

Lieutenant Colonel St John Brooke Johnson

A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Lieutenant Colonel St John Brooke Johnson, OBE, MBE, will be held in the Guild Church of St Lawrence Jewry, Gresham Street, London, EC2, at 11.30am on Thursday, November 21, 1996.



Maria Bueno, tennis champion, who is 57

Birthdays today

Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark, former MP, 64; Miss Maria Bueno, tennis player, 57; the Hon Sir Adam Butler, former MP, 65; Sir Bobby Charlton, footballer, 59; Vice-Admiral Sir John Coward, 59; Miss Valerie Cumming, deputy director, Museum of London, 50; Sir Timothy Daunt, diplomat, 61; Sir Michael Edwardes, former chairman, British Leyland, 66; Miss Dawn French, actress and comedienne, 39; Mr Geoffrey Haslam, former chairman, Prudential Corporation, 82; Sir Denys Henderson, former chairman, ICI, 64; Mr Henry King, non-executive chairman, Rentokil Group, 60; Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McIntosh, 77; Mr Alan Pascoe, athlete, 49; Lord Prior, 69; Mr David Rendall, tenor, 48; Dame Paddy Ridsdale, 75; Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Stear, 58; Lord Tordoff, 68; Colonel Thomas H. Trevor, 85; Mr Thomas Wheare, Headmaster, Bryanston School, 52; Mr Tony Worthington, MP, 55.

Reception

Lord Mackay of Clashfern

The Lord Chancellor, Honorary President of the Society of Scottish Lawyers in London, was the host at a reception held yesterday at the House of Lords.

Trinity Term calls to the Bar

Lincoln's Inn

M S Williams, Twickenham, Mddx; J W R Reed, Lower Vobster, Som; J P Nield, Poole; J A Okine, London N8; P E C Pride, Frilsham, nr Newbury; M A Hodgson, Slough; R I Dalani, London SW3; T Neofytou, Leeds; E B Welch, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks; B P Mahon, Castle Bromwich; S L Margree, Stanton-in-Peak, Matlock; C Bristow, London NW11; M J Glaquinto, Stonehouse, Glouc; S U Rahman, Northolt, Mddx; J R Falkenstein, Whitley Bay; S J Duffy, Hale, Altrincham, Ches; B Delaney, Benton, Newcastle upon Tyne; T Matin, London WC1; G Watson, Bolton; L M Walters-James, Lower Heyford, Oxon; P A Hamilton, London SW5; J E Law, Leamington Spa; D P Hall, Warwick; L J Harper, Beaconsfield, Bucks; Y Khan, London NW9; A Thornton, Ruddington, Notts; D P Van Der Wal, Folkestone; C B Whatlam, Hornsea, Humberside; O F M'Bai, Banjul; S E Hancox, Sedgley, Dudley; V Rama, London W12; A V Markham, London NW3; C K Holland, Sale, Ches; P S A Blincow, High Wycombe, Bucks; K C Lee, Hong Kong; Dr D T Bainbridge, Lichfield; R S Roopra, Barking, Essex; A S McGregor, Kings Langley, Herts; C R Lowerth, Rugeley, Staffs; S Ishaque, Mitcham, Surrey; N J Baylis, London W1; L A Davidson, Helen's Bay, Co Down; Y Muthupalani-yappan, Alor Setar, Kedah Darulaman, Malaysia; J E Goldring, Preston, Oakham, Rutland; L G Wilcox, Edgbaston; V P Perrins, Solihull; N S Biswas, Lathom, Lancs; A T L Drane, London W14; K R Stead, Illingworth, Halifax; M D W Ward, Bangor, Co Down; T L Edwards, Bryntieg, near Wrexham; F O Moeran, London NW3; P O Zaman, London E11; L Singer, Huddersfield; D Toh May Ling, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia; M Islam-Choudhury, Manchester; J Rafn, Gentofte, Copenhagen; S Tozer, Lymington, Hants; C S Samuels, Northwood, Mddx; D R Cocker, Mickleover, Derby; E J P Rowntree, Greenham Common N, Newbury; J A Trinder, Horwich, Bolton; L W S Menzies, Brentwood, Essex; C D Riegels, Tortola, Br Virgin Iss; S Taylor, London NW10; J Mallon, Huyton with Roby, Liverpool; A W Smith, Bolton; S S Sidhu, London W5; S M G Elliot, London N6; M W Wyatt, Potters End, Enfield, Mddx; S R A Miller, London NW10; G H Jones, Alsager, Stoke-on-Trent; P Asteris, Emsworth, Hants; D P White, Farnham Common, Berks; W S Beglan, Cheam, Surrey; B A S Shah, London N12; S Veloso, Ceres; T G Matin, London W3; H Guest, London SE7; C M M Comonte, London SW19; G Vallera, London N1; M R Malhotra, Wembley, London; A M Frodsham, Heswall, Wirral; S E Lyness, Lisburn, Co Antrim; S J Friday, Watford; A P Fisher, Mansfield, Notts; D H Holland, Bromley Cross, Bolton; W Dellimore, Hounslow, Mddx; S Williams, Erith, Kent; C R J Bauer, Woodhurst, Huntingdon, Cambs; J J Hibberts, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent; R Bradberry, Edgbaston; S J S Povoas, Oadby, Leics; J M Ford, Attleborough, Norfolk; R Thomas, Bourne End, Bucks; J E Shepherd, Mottram, via Hyde, Ches; Z Khan, Rochdale; Dr G W Ashley, Whitchurch, Salop; D W Durose, Endon, Stoke-on-Trent; S K Mortimer, London N3; B K Uppal, Langley, Slough; C L Knighton, Romiley, Stockport; A V Price, Lightfield, Whitchurch, Salop; S Bassiri-Dezfouli, London W14; A Dawar, Rainhill, Prescot, Merseyside; A M Martin, Cotham, Bristol; C N Oakes, Pensby, Wirral; D R Foster, London SE10; D E M Sinclair, Sonning, Oxon; J M Mbiti, Nairobi; C J Speck, Beeston, Nottingham; N R A Hamzah, London SW6; R R Hanson, Brighouse, W Yorks; D A Charles, Northolt, Mddx; M F Sweeting, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool; K L Nowell, Wokingham, Berks; K S Mackiggan, London N16; S R Crawford, Twickenham, Mddx; C R Carter, New Ash Green, Kent; M F Booth, Northam, Bideford, Devon; M O Gurik, London EC2; I Wilson, Gateshead; J Wasley, Blackwood, Gwent; J K A Fairman, London SE26; I Sram, Knutsford, Ches.

Inner Temple

A D Oakes, London SW18; A M Day, Edinburgh; A P J Hogan, Brighton; W J Tyler, Leicester; A J Morgan, Seabridge, Staffs; R S Claridge, Southampton; N T Smith, Dagenham, Essex; W M P Goudie, London NW6; S J Coleman, London E2; M P Whyte, Bretton, Peterborough; R L Withey, Weymouth; S T Wood, Virginia Water, Surrey; N G H Jeudwine-Barnes, London E1; B M Rayment, Herongate, Brentwood, Essex; P D Morris, Knowle, Solihull; J R Wood, Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay; M J C Harris, Worcester Park, Surrey; A J Maxwell-Scott, London SW17; M J Denton, Berkhamsted, Herts; E O'Shea, Blackrock, Cork; P Mansoor, Harehills, Leeds; S D Butler, London N1; C M McCloskey, Letterkenny, Co Donegal; P Mitchell, Challock, Kent; C S I M Corderoy, London W3; P R Bruce, Wallington, Surrey; J P Woodward, Godalming, Surrey; R M Barber, London SW11; A C Jones, Manor Park, Sheffield; A G Scott-Lynch, Erith, Kent; M J Diggle, Nottingham; E M Procek, London W8; S M Gladwell, Holbrook, Suffolk; A E H Taylor, Cranbrook, Kent; L M Colley, Leicester; J P Maurice, Ealing, London; D J Moore, Sutton Coldfield; J K Moffett, London SW11; V L Cavanagh, Cheadle, Ches; J Lofthouse, London N4; M F Smith, London SW16; J S Atkinson, London W4; S J Ball, S Wirral, Ches; A E M Buckland, London SE11; P M R Tanner, London E14; T G M Mitcheson, London WC1; C S A Mauger, London SW16; P D Roberts, London NW3; L C Steele, Barnoldswick, Colne, Lancs; P T Maggs, Harrow, Mddx; M G Goodwin, London NW4; C Bingham, London W2; K G W Collins, Worthing; L J Anderson, Henley on Thames; D F Barry, Merton Park, London; N G Yates, Watford, Herts; R A Bennett, Tynemouth; H Stonecliffe, W Hampstead, London; H-M Brady, Hampton Wick, Surrey; Q C Richards, Westbourne Park, London; S-A Smith, Andover, Hants; S L Thompson, London SW6; T J Pinto, London NW3; S Guirguis, Worksop, Notts; J M Smyth, London N5; N J Peers, Sheffield; D J Blakeley, Chewton Mendip, nr Bath; W E Jones, Leighton Buzzard, Beds; A Saran, Stanmore, Mddx; H W Merriman, London W1; C G V Packman, London NW11; R C J Harris, London SW1; T V Jenner-Ludbrook, Melton Constable, Norfolk; P J McMorrow, London E1; D Knox, London E1; L P Leake, Oxford; G A Tranter, London E1; S G Tucker, London NW6; M L Smith, London SW1; M S Henley, Woodford Green, Essex; J S Redpath, London SW4; R C Wilson, London SE8; A Ahmad, London SW15; D J Moore, Brighton; W E Dolby Stevens, Southampton; V J T Harper, London SW6; N S Fox, London W9; I M Gilmore, Wetherby, W Yorks; D A Sparkes, London SW6; C C Poulakis, London W8; J R T Page, London E2; K E Hogg, Lewes; S J Pullin, Eastbourne; S A Wynyard-Evans, Lechlade, Gloucs; C C Weeden, Eastbourne; E J Hogan, London NW6; S D George, London NW6; C J Calcroft, Windlesham, Surrey; R N Silverbeck, Mossley Hill, Liverpool; G R R Wilson, London WC1; S A Mahoney, Penn, High Wycombe, Bucks; E I Blantern, Richmond, N Yorks; E R Jay, London NW2; C J Davis, London N2; B P Mullee, London SW1; J C F Hanham, London W14; Yuet Ngor Leung, Kowloon, Hong Kong; T G Evans, Exeter, Devon; T E Williams, Bangor, Gwynedd; A G Lorie, London SW3; G A Venturi, Winchester; M D Dubbery, Enfield, Mddx; C M Bradley, London W6; E S Connell, Camberley, Surrey; L M Rose, Hove; M S Sethi, London E12; E E Roberts, London W11; J B Roussak, Pembury, Kent; P R McLachlan, New Malden, Surrey; P A A Gillot, Maidenhead, Berks; M H Walsh, London W1; J Bee Khim Ooi, Singapore; M V Mitchiner, Sanderstead, Surrey; R J Case, Winchester; G F S Cockings, Olney, Bucks; C G Parslow, Grouville, Jersey; J A Pereira, London SE4; N J Dealy, London NW3; E A D Hutchin, London W6; H A Anderson, Caversham, Reading; M A A-H Sindair, London NW8; L Frazer, London NW6; T H Bruton, Broome, Clent, Worcs; S M Matthewson, Cambridge; J C H Sampson, Stevenage, Herts; A Thain, Dartford, Kent; S T Pickering, Hucknall, Notts; J D Budd, Bridgwater, Som; F E B Rowe, London W14; M R Hall, Reading; D E Jones, Chesterfield, Orpington, Kent; S D Phillips, Maida Vale, London; P A H Edwards, Cranleigh, Surrey; B Gill, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham; S D Sperry, London SW6; E J Chadwick, High Pittington, Durham; A Carrolan, Northfield, Birmingham; K J Delaney, Formby; S A Beams, Wartlingham, Surrey; L Aloft, Gerrards Cross, Bucks; E J Burke, London NW6; A F L Peal, London SW14; A J Klander, London N6; F A Clements, Hove; R M Hussaian, Blackburn; A A Carvalho Gomes, London N10; T A Pedro, London W5; A A Gillespie, Spennymoor, Co Durham; K S R Ghose, London SW4; S M O'Hagan, Hanley, Stoke on Trent; B Morris, Grassendale, Liverpool; L Townley, London E1; M R Gregory, London SW8; K Crouch, London NW2; J A Trastman, High Wycombe, Bucks; Marsham, N Yorks; R M Kothari, London W9; A M Clowes, Westwood, Notts; L M Gibbons, Southport; S P Keevey-Kothari, London E1; N R Metson, Truro; R Bagral, Bradford; S H Alfred, Tunbridge Wells; M E G Thompson, Chesham Bois, Bucks; G R Artenborough, Kempston, Beds; D A Rowland, Castlebar, Co Mayo; N Y Curtin, London SW18; P S J Sengam, Rugeley; S Hillas, Halifax; C K Diamond, London N1; L B Wilson, London NW7; S N Martin, Wokingham, Berks; C A S Abraham, Tewin, Herts; S J DeG Homer, Wrexham; D R Haeems, London SW1; J Chambers, Downpatrick, Co Down; A L Flynn-Antonio, Peel Hall, Manchester; L A McCabe, Rugby; D R McLachlan, Waterloo, Liverpool; T N Dunn, Romsey, Hants; C A Davenport, London SW1; P S Lillo, Guildford, Surrey.

In absentia

K L Dolphin, Sheldon, Birmingham; E M Shear, Redbridge, Essex.

Middle Temple

J O J Strachan, London NW1; S J Taylor, London N10; A N Crookes, Plymouth; I Wilks, London NW3; F C Okereke, London NW10; S B Richardson, Altrincham; V Devadasan, London E10; P G Bitmead, London SE23; T L Kevan, London SW1; R K Lewis-Jones, London SW9; G Coroneos, Athens; D G Farmer, Northwood, Mddx; J D Moody, London N1; J A Bulias, London SW8; M S Walsh, Yardley, Birmingham; J R M Kullick, Esher, Surrey; G R Vencatachellum, London SW12; M J Dickinson, Harefield, Mddx; R W Clement, London NW10; R J Baker, London NW10; E R Cornish, Tickhill, Doncaster; Shi King Ho, Hong Kong; P Varney, Clifton, Bristol; L R B Lane, Colchester, Essex; G Y Mohabir, Beckenham, Kent; J J Sheffield; D J Lonsdale, London SE11; G J McBride, Hale, Ches; N B Jones, Leighton Buzzard, Beds; A Saran, Stanmore, Mddx; H W Merriman, London W1; C G V Packman, London NW11; R C J Harris, London SW1; T V Jenner-Ludbrook, Melton Constable, Norfolk; P J McMorrow, London E1; D Knox, London E1; L P Leake, Oxford; G A Tranter, London E1; S G Tucker, London NW6; M L Smith, London SW1; M S Henley, Woodford Green, Essex; J S Redpath, London SW4; R C Wilson, London SE8; A Ahmad, London SW15; D J Moore, Brighton; W E Dolby Stevens, Southampton; V J T Harper, London SW6; N S Fox, London W9; I M Gilmore, Wetherby, W Yorks; D A Sparkes, London SW6; C C Poulakis, London W8; J R T Page, London E2; K E Hogg, Lewes; S J Pullin, Eastbourne; S A Wynyard-Evans, Lechlade, Gloucs; C C Weeden, Eastbourne; E J Hogan, London NW6; S D George, London NW6; C J Calcroft, Windlesham, Surrey; R N Silverbeck, Mossley Hill, Liverpool; G R R Wilson, London WC1; S A Mahoney, Penn, High Wycombe, Bucks; E I Blantern, Richmond, N Yorks; E R Jay, London NW2; C J Davis, London N2; B P Mullee, London SW1; J C F Hanham, London W14; Yuet Ngor Leung, Kowloon, Hong Kong; T G Evans, Exeter, Devon; T E Williams, Bangor, Gwynedd; A G Lorie, London SW3; G A Venturi, Winchester; M D Dubbery, Enfield, Mddx; C M Bradley, London W6; E S Connell, Camberley, Surrey; L M Rose, Hove; M S Sethi, London E12; E E Roberts, London W11; J B Roussak, Pembury, Kent; P R McLachlan, New Malden, Surrey; P A A Gillot, Maidenhead, Berks; M H Walsh, London W1; J Bee Khim Ooi, Singapore; M V Mitchiner, Sanderstead, Surrey; R J Case, Winchester; G F S Cockings, Olney, Bucks; C G Parslow, Grouville, Jersey; J A Pereira, London SE4; N J Dealy, London NW3; E A D Hutchin, London W6; H A Anderson, Caversham, Reading; M A A-H Sindair, London NW8; L Frazer, London NW6; T H Bruton, Broome, Clent, Worcs; S M Matthewson, Cambridge; J C H Sampson, Stevenage, Herts; A Thain, Dartford, Kent; S T Pickering, Hucknall, Notts; J D Budd, Bridgwater, Som; F E B Rowe, London W14; M R Hall, Reading; D E Jones, Chesterfield, Orpington, Kent; S D Phillips, Maida Vale, London; P A H Edwards, Cranleigh, Surrey; B Gill, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham; S D Sperry, London SW6; E J Chadwick, High Pittington, Durham; A Carrolan, Northfield, Birmingham; K J Delaney, Formby; S A Beams, Wartlingham, Surrey; L Aloft, Gerrards Cross, Bucks; E J Power, Tatenhill, Burton-upon-Trent; S M Lewis, London N16; A D Sastry, Cardiff; R S Kelgwin, C J G Simpson, London NW1; C R J Gourley, London NW3; E J Grieves, Trimdon Colliery, Co Durham; S S Karim, Kuala Lumpur; S L Clarke, Clubmoor, Liverpool; T P Vaughan, London E11; M A Shepherd, Burnley; S S Naqshbandi, London W12; M J Hewitson, London W12; W W Purcell, London SE22; J G Richards, Oxford; P Anjomshoaa, London N10; S A Trueman, London N3; H J Humpage, London N1; N Demetriou, London SW3; M B C Lynn, London SW14; M W Lau, London N6; T M Achurch, Cropston, Leicester; R L Charles, Bradford; B S Cherrill, Lewes; S Leonard-Morgan, London W12; A S K Malden, Brighton; C St J Gilbert, London SW11; M R McLean, London N8; J M Gardiner, London SW4; G C Vessey, London SW3; L Rahman, London E1; A M Posta, Sidmouth, Devon; P E V Chubb, London W11; A S Cox, London N2; J G Barber, Chorleywood, Herts; C A Oborzyo, London SW17; M J Winter, London SW12; C A Guiloff, London NW11; C J Brennan, London E2; R A Amarsinha, Leybourne, Kent; I S Forrester, QC, Scottish advocate, London EC4.

Gray's Inn

B M G Elkington, Bayswater, London; J S Dhillon, Maidenhead, Berks; M A Francis, Stonebridge, London; C Dunn, Newcastle upon Tyne; A R M G Bayston, Windsor; M Ivory, Sutton, Surrey; R T Leiper, St Peters, Guernsey; D H Brawn, Telegraph Hill, London; S W Gibson, Exmouth; N Karuppen, Greenford, Mddx; S V N Bourke, Kilburn, London; E P Joannou, Bayswater, London; J C R St J Earle, Duxford, Cambs; N A Flitch, Huntingdon; S M Johanputra, Cheadle, Ches; A M Davis, Wolvey, Leics; T S Green, Barkby, Leics; R D Hill, Battersea, London; T J Kenefick, Friern Barnet, London; M J M Welsh, Leamington Spa; A J Shariand, Tunbridge Wells; S D Miller, Congleton, Ches; J W Hallam, Houghton-on-the-Hill, Leics; S D Williams, Middlesborough; K S Javali, New Delhi; D A Warner, Upton Bishop, H & W; J M Povey, Penarth, Glam; A J W Ayres, Chelsea, London; D J Linfott, Golders Green, Lds; D N Lucas, Wimbledon, London; E T Legard, Bedale, Yorks; C A A Gibaud, Belgravia, London; F C Parks, Horsham; S Warren, Islington, London; V S Milner, St Martin, Jersey; S Patel, Barnet, London; A J Tanser, Mexborough, Yorks; A M O'Connor, Rainham, Kent; G P Branston, Thurcaston, Leics; A L Oakley, Epsom, Surrey; N J Jones, Tenbury Wells, Worcester; M J Taylor, Stoke-on-Trent; R I Usher, Darrington, Yorks; M C Beard, Kennington, London; S Mirza, Greenford, Mddx; V Telford, Surry, Canterbury; C M A Black, Sand Hutton, Yorks; S F McLoughlin, Birmingham; A P Davis, Stanmore, Mddx; F D Harold, S Woodham Ferrers, Essex; N Peacock, Newcastle upon Tyne; M B Chambers, Portsmouth; M Rees, Bridgend, Glam; L R Freeston, Ealing, London; J B Mantripp, Mecklenburgh Square, London; D I Solomon, Welshpool, Powys; R E Worthington, Glossop, Derbs; A H Alakija, Bedford Park, London; P G C Goddard, Brighton; M R Cottrell, Wirral; J C James-Sadden, Bristol; D W Wilson, Doncaster; E-J Hobbs, Hampton, Mddx; S E Hall, Tamworth, Staffs; T F Scott, Hailsham, E Sussex; P M Seguss, Blackpool; T D Collingwood, Kilburn, London; O M Ward, W Hampstead, London; B J E Bowden, Islington, London; D Mathews, Little Stretton, Salop; M A Crean, Liverpool; G D F K Fishwick, Bognor Regis; M Mitchiner, Newmarket; S J Elliott, Upper Beeding, W Sussex; C S Jones, E Croydon, Surrey; C A Kavanaugh, Harpenden, Herts; S A Leene, Ashton-under-Lyne; A J Cox, Westminster, London; R G Jenner, Sale, Ches; E W Soulsby, Wolverhampton; G T Kelly, Kilburn, London; L K Newbitt, Cardiff; B L Todd, Crawley, Sussex; K B Haywood, Brentwood, Essex; T B Hayes, Islington, London; S Riggs, Bristol; S S Johal, Hayes, Mddx; S H Slater, Armitage, Staffs; A J Smiler, Beaconsfield, Bucks; H I Edwards, Cardiff; N P L Griffin, Isleworth, Mddx; P J Ireland, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne; P J M Dahlsen, Ealing, London; A R Lodge, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester; R F Johnson, Rhyl, Clwyd; C K Abban, Norwood, London; Z K Okhai, London WC1; J C Knight, Finchampstead, Berks; A M Robertson, Didcot, Oxon; A Demetriou, Larnaca; J R Myers, Ormskirk; D Barnett, Tewkesbury, Gloucs; M Muthu, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.J. Bass
and Miss J.R. Brecher

The engagement is announced between Adam James, son of Mr Martin Bass and Mrs Lorriane Bass, and Joanna Rosalind, daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry A. Brecher, of London, W2.

Mr M. Brassington
and Miss P.S.L. Norman

The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr J.A. Brassington, of Highgate, London, and Mrs G. Hepsworth, of Old Windsor, Berkshire, and Penelope, twin daughter of Dr and Mrs W.J. Norman, of Lyth Hill, Shrewsbury.

Mr P.M.S. Chesser
and Miss S.C. Griffin

The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Dr Donald Chesser, of Chipstead, Surrey, and Mrs Akey Self, of Shere, Surrey, and Sarah, only daughter of Mr Nicolas Griffin, of Bamford, Derbyshire, and Mrs Bridget Raby, of Milford, Staffordshire.

Mr J.O. Hall
and Miss E.S. Hallam

The engagement is announced between James Oliver, son of Mr and Mrs Tony Hall, of Fulbeck, Lincolnshire, and Elizabeth Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Joe Hallam, of Holme, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Flight Lieutenant D.J. Kay
and Dr S.C.B. FitzPatrick

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Kay, of Welling, Kent, and Sally, youngest daughter of the late Mr Ivor FitzPatrick and of Mrs Maureen FitzPatrick, of Pollokshields, Glasgow.

Mr J.T. Lury
and Dr D.C. Hill

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Ralph Lury, of Little Shelford, Cambridge, and Diana, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon Hill, of Hartlepool, Cleveland.

Mr P.M. O'Donnell
and Miss K.P. Malmgren

The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of the late Mr Manus O'Donnell and of Mrs Patricia O'Donnell, of Sydney, Australia, and Philippa, daughter of Ambassador Harald Malmgren, of Warrenton, Virginia, USA, and Mrs Patricia Malmgren, of Bethesda, Maryland, USA.

Mr C.T. Rodden
and Miss C.V.A. Hewitt

The engagement is announced between Campbell, son of Mr Charles Rodden and the late Mrs Jean Rodden, of Fife, and Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hewitt, of Bolton.

Mr W.D.K. Todd
and Miss H.R.A. Gaywood

The engagement is announced between William Derek Kenneth, son of Dr and Mrs Derek Todd, of Western Hill, Durham, and Harriet Rosemary Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Gaywood, of Kippen, Stirlingshire.

Mr C.J. Warren-Smith
and Miss F.E. Inchbald

The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Doug Warren-Smith and Helen Hosking, Melbourne, Australia, and Fiona, daughter of Sally Inchbald, Cattistock, Dorset.

Mr S.A. Wiles
and Miss E.K. Butterworth

The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs Terence Wiles, of Stokesley, North Yorkshire, and Emma, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs Peter Butterworth, of Downton, Wiltshire.

Mr R.M. Windle
and Miss F.L. Fellingham

The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Major and Mrs F. Windle, of Pissouri, Cyprus, and Fleur, daughter of the Rev John and Mrs Fellingham, of Little Ellingham, Norfolk.

Marriages

Mr I. Kochkarev
and Miss C.M. de Pury

The marriage took place on October 4, at the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, London, between Mr Ivan Kochkarev and Miss Catherine de Pury.

Mr L.W. Reid
and Miss H.S. McCall

The marriage took place on September 19, 1996, at Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark, of Mr Leslie William Reid, B Acc, and Miss Helen Stewart McCall, both of Lanark. The Rev Catherine Collins officiated. Dr Alan W. Baird was best man.

Royal Society of Chemistry

The following were admitted as Fellows of The Royal Society of Chemistry in September 1996. They are entitled to use the designation 'Chartered Chemist' and the letters CChem FRSC.

M C Allen, A L Andrady, R W Avery, P A Bather, D Bellus, M G Bertinelli, H B Broughton, A E G Cass, P W Catherall, J Chakraborty, H C Cheng, H F Chow, T G Clarke, A Cooper, M G Curl, S K Das, J E Davies, A L Dicks, R Dietz, J Gerratt, M J Green, K D M Harris, J S Hobbs, G R Hodges, R N Kapoor, M G Kibblewhite, R J Law, E T Libbey, A W Mott, S S O'Leary, D Patel, D P Pipiani, C G Ramsay, G Read, A Shaw, B M Smith, A P F Turner, P M Williams.

Lecture

The Royal Society

Professor Robert Young, of Manchester University and UMIST, delivered the Royal Society Zeneca Lecture to the society at 6 Carlton House Terrace yesterday. Sir Aaron Klug, OM, president, was in the chair.

Latest wills

John Durston, of Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, left estate valued at £526,579 net.

William Hallam Ward, of Watford, Hertfordshire, left estate valued at £612,129 net.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Arthur Phillip, founder of penal colony at Sydney, New South Wales, London, 1738; James Barry, historical painter, Cork, 1741; Joseph Gillot, pioneer of the steel pen, Sheffield, 1799; John Thadeus Delane, Editor of The Times 1841-1877, London, 1817; Sir George Williams, founder of the YMCA, Dulverton, Somerset, 1821; Henry John Heinz, food manufacturer, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1844; Sir Bernard Partridge, artist and cartoonist, London, 1861; 1881; François Mauriac, novelist, Nobel laureate 1952, Bordeaux, 1885.

DEATHS: Huldreich Zwingli, Swiss reformer, killed in battle, Kappel, Switzerland, 1531; Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder, poet, Sherborne, Dorset, 1542; Samuel Wesley, musician, London, 1837; James Joule, physicist, Sale, Cheshire, 1889; Anton Bruckner, composer, Vienna, 1896; Henry Broadhurst, trades unionist, Cromer, 1911; Jean Fabre, entomologist, Serignan-du-Comtat, 1915; Groucho Marx, actor, Hollywood, 1961; Jean Cocteau, poet, painter, actor and film director, Milly-la-Forêt, 1963; Edith Piaf, singer, Paris, 1963; Stanley Morison, typographer and historian of The Times, London, 1967.

The Great Fire of Chicago was extinguished, 1871.

The first in-flight meals were served on a Handley-Page flight from London to Paris at a cost of 3 shillings (15 pence), 1919.

The Jodrell Bank radio telescope, designed by Sir Bernard Lovell, began operating, 1957.

Dinners

Lord Mayor of Westminster

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were the hosts at a dinner held yesterday at Westminster Council House. Among those present were:

The Ambassador of Switzerland and Mme Nordmann, the Ambassador of Georgia and Mrs Mamatsashvili, Sir Gordon and Lady Wolstenholme, Councillor Kevin Gardner and Baroness Gardner of Parkes, Councillor Mrs Jenny Blanco, Mr and Mrs Robert Flach, Mr and Mrs Peter Ford, Mr and Mrs Alex Johnston, Mr Graham Kelly, Mrs Romaine Armstrong, Mr and Mrs David Lloyd-Jones, Mr and Mrs Ramón Pajares, Mr James Rankin, Miss Jane Clark, Captain and Mrs Michael Sauvage, Mr Kevin Taylor, Mr and Mrs Warren Todd, Mr Nicholas Allott, Miss Clarissa d'Souza, Mr and Mrs Paul Belsman, Mr Trevor Box, Miss Penny Mitzmann, Mr and Mrs Gerald Davis, Miss Rosemary Devine, Mr and Mrs Jeremy Freeman, Commander and Mrs William Huckleby, Mr and Mrs Stephen Leach, Mr and Mrs David Messias, Mr and Mrs Terence Neville, Mr and Mrs Ueli Prager, Ms Paula J Rigby, and Mr and Mrs Sydney Sporle.

The Intellectual Property Lawyers' Organisation

The Intellectual Property Lawyers' Organisation held their autumn Dinner Debate at the Café Royal on Tuesday, October 8. The subject of the meeting was the infringement of registered trade marks. Mr Justice Laddie was in the Chair. Mr Geoffrey Hobbs, QC, and Mr Anthony Willoughby addressed the meeting.

Upholders' Company

Alderman Sir Christopher Walford was the principal guest at a ladies' night dinner of the Upholders' Company held last night at the Mansion House. Mr Derek Stanley Austin, Master, presided, assisted by Mr Peter Allocca, Senior Warden, and Mr Roy Alan Wood, Junior Warden.

Service dinners

Royal Naval Regulating Branch

Mr W.E.E. Boreham, Chief Constable of the Ministry of Defence Police, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the officers of the Royal Naval Regulating Branch held last night in HMS Excellent, Portsmouth. Lieutenant-Commander J. Beardall, Provost Marshal (Navy), presided.

HAC

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Edward Heath, KG, MP, was the principal guest and a speaker at a dinner of the Honourable Artillery Company Mess Club held last night at Armoury House to mark his 80th birthday (July 9) and 50 years of membership of the HAC. Colonel G.E. Gilchrist, president of the club, was in the chair. Captain J.E. Storer and Brigadier Lord Aldington also spoke. General Sir Michael Wilkes, Colonel Commandant, attended.

The King's Royal Rifle Corps

Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, presided at the annual dinner of the Celer et Audax Club held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

Royal Corps of Signals

Major-General J.O.C. Alexander, Representative Colonel Commandant, attended the annual autumn guest night dinner of the Royal Corps of Signals held last night at Headquarters Mess, Blandford, Dorset. Colonel T.E.M. Richardson presided. Brigadier N.F. Wood, Signal Officer-in-Chief (Army) was present.

Eaton Hall Officer Cadet School

The Duke of Westminster was present at the eighth reunion dinner held last night at the Naval and Military Club. Major-General Sir Philip Ward presided. The principal guests were General Sir Michael Rose and Commodore A.P. Masterton-Smith.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Shout for joy, you heavens; earth, rejoice; break forth songs of triumph, you mountains, for the Lord has comforted his people and has had pity on them in their distress. Isaiah 49 : 13

BIRTHS

ASHEW - On October 6th, to Victoria (née Callander) and Julian, a son, Benjamin Geoffrey David Callander.

BARDSLEY - To Svetlana (née Opacic) and Phillip, on 7th October 1996, a beautiful son, Aleksei Xavier Rufus Christian. Deo Gratias.

BELL - On 10th October 1996 at The Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, to Sarah and Kevin, a son, Thomas Daniel, a brother for James. A grandson for Pam and Ron.

BRADLEY - On October 3rd 1996, at Whiston Hospital, to Annmarie (née Blackhall) and Paul twin daughters, Lauren Marie and Caitlin Ruth.

CAPLAN - On October 9th 1996, at St Mary's, Paddington, to Franceska (née Krajczewska) and Gregory, a beautiful son, Theodore Jan Abraham.

CARNEGIE - On October 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Wendy (née Gayler) and Andrew, a treasured son, Charles Stanley, a brother for Katie.

CAWDELL - On Thursday 3rd October, to Sarah (née Bates) and Simon, a son, James Charles Peter.

DAVIDSON-HOUSTON - On 6th October 1996, at Queen

OBITUARIES

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR HUGH MACKENZIE

Vice-Admiral Sir Hugh Mackenzie, KCB, DSO and Bar, DSC, the first Chief Polaris Executive, 1963-68, died on October 9 aged 83. He was born on July 3, 1913.

Whatever history's ultimate verdict on the Cold War, there is little doubt that the cohesion of Nato, the political standing of the United Kingdom and the deterrence of conflict in Europe were made more robust by British ballistic missile submarines. The continuing operational effectiveness of the submarine-borne nuclear deterrent is a lasting tribute to "Rufus" Mackenzie.

Mackenzie's career as a submariner encompassed an exceptional war record. After the war he rose to the senior post of his profession and, finally, to highly effective leadership of the project to create a British submarine-borne nuclear deterrent based on the American Polaris missile.

Mackenzie was assigned to manage the Polaris project on Boxing Day 1962, following the Nassau meeting between Harold Macmillan and President Kennedy at which it was agreed that Britain would be supplied with Polaris in place of the cancelled Skybolt air-to-surface missile. Less than six years later, in July 1968, the Royal Navy assumed responsibility for the deterrent as *Resolution*, the first ballistic missile submarine, arrived in its patrol area.

Between these two dates, as Chief Polaris Executive (CPE), Mackenzie had to set up management systems, and then control a project of novel size, cost and complexity — one which did not rest easily among the established equipment procurement structures. Although a high priority was given to the work, the national resources available were slender, and experienced personnel in short supply.

Technical challenges also abounded. The Polaris system relied on a weapon of previously unimaginable range being fired from a nuclear-powered submarine that would be able to remain underwater and at depth — and thus practically invulnerable to surface vessels — for the entire duration of its patrol, which could be a month or more. In addition to building a class of sophisticated new submarines the size of cruisers, Britain was to manufacture its own warheads and re-entry vehicles (the "nose-cone"): meanwhile, the selected A3 version of Polaris, with a range of 2,850 miles, was in a late stage of development.

While some of the supplementary projects fell outside CPE's direct remit, Mackenzie had to maintain overall co-ordination. The vitally important relationship with the US Navy was helped by the mutual respect that built up between Mackenzie and his American opposite number — both were submarine officers, with wartime careers of comparable distinction.

Mackenzie was also responsible for relations with organisations such as Vickers and Rolls-Royce, and he saw himself as the project's voice at ministerial and Admiralty Board level in Whitehall. He also had to deal with all those who feared that the proper business of the Royal Navy would be damaged by this expensive irrelevancy.

Mackenzie took a strongly positive approach to management, and he imported a battery of innovative management techniques. As a result, he achieved the singular feat of bringing a major postwar defence project home on time and within budget.



Hugh Stirling Mackenzie joined the Royal Navy at Dartmouth in 1927 at the age of 14, qualifying as a submariner in 1935. In 1941 he passed the commanding officers' selection course and took command of the submarine *Thrasher*, which soon became one of the more successful members of the famous T-class in the submarine flotillas based in the Mediterranean. Thirteen of these submarines were sunk, nearly half of those that operated there.

Mackenzie, known as "Rufus" or the Red Mackenzie (to differentiate him from Lieutenant A. J. Mackenzie — the "Black" — who was lost off Capri in December 1942), had his own narrow escapes. In February 1942, after the submarine had sunk a supply ship, the subsequent counter-attack left two unexploded bombs trapped in *Thrasher*'s upper deck casing structure. With the submarine on the surface and liable to have to dive hurriedly at any moment, one of these bombs required Lieutenant P. W. Roberts, the First Lieutenant, and Petty Officer T. W. Gould, the coxswain, to crawl some way inside the casing to free it. For their bravery, both were awarded the Victoria Cross.

In July 1942 *Thrasher* was attacked while in a submarine sanctuary area off Port Said by a friendly Swordfish aircraft which dropped four 250lb depth-charges. Although very badly damaged, *Thrasher* was saved by its sturdy construction and skilled handling, and just managed to make it back to harbour.

At one point *Thrasher*'s Jolly Roger flag, traditionally flown from periscope standards on return from a patrol, sported the insignia for 11 sinkings by torpedo and seven by gunfire. Important targets were petrol carriers for Rommel's Afrika Korps. For his contribution to the campaign Mackenzie was awarded the DSO in 1942 and a bar in 1943.

Mackenzie's next command was the new submarine *Tantalus*. Initially based at Freemantle in Australia, he was noted for making the two longest patrols of the war by a British submarine, much of them in the dangerous waters north of the Malay barrier. He was awarded the DSC in 1945.

As he later explained, "We had to go into heavily patrolled waters to do any good at all. We knew there were mines, and as time went on the Axis powers became better and better at their anti-submarine methods and we were up against some pretty good opposition." A modest man, he was admired and respected by all who served with him for his patience and coolness in the face of danger.

After the war, Mackenzie was promoted commander in 1946 and for two years occupied the post of "teacher", responsible for running the submarine commanding officers' qualifying course (known as the "perisher"). After a tour as second-in-command of the cruiser *Liverpool*, he was promoted captain and commanded a destroyer squadron, a research establishment and a shore training school. For two years from 1956 he held the important post of Chief Staff Officer to the Flag Officer Submarines.

Promoted rear-admiral in July 1961, Mackenzie was appointed Flag Officer Submarines during a testing time for the submarine service as it absorbed the new technology and operating skills required for nuclear-propelled attack submarines. He was appointed CB in 1963 and KCB in 1966, retiring as a vice-admiral in 1968.

In retirement he was chairman of the Navy League until 1974 and director, then chairman, of the Atlantic Salmon Trust until 1983.

On August 28 this year Mackenzie attended a ceremony at the Faslane base to mark the decommissioning of *HMS Repulse*, the last of the Polaris-carrying Resolution class of submarines, the deterrent now being maintained by Vanguard class submarines with Trident missiles. He could thus claim to have seen the Polaris project through from start to finish.

He is survived by his wife Helen, whom he married in 1946, and by their son and two daughters.

TONY PARKER

Tony Parker, oral historian, died on October 3 aged 73. He was born on June 25, 1923.

TONY PARKER'S ears were once described as "a national treasure". As an interviewer he saw it as his task to be quietly attentive, to record without comment or judgment. He was simply a blackboard for people to write on, he said. The impact of his interviews rested on the immediacy of recorded speech and it was this which made Parker the greatest oral historian of our day.

In the published transcripts of his interviews, Parker exposed readers to the lives of people they might otherwise have shunned. He penetrated the often violent and hostile worlds of convicted murderers and IRA terrorists, of striking miners and sex offenders. He portrayed the richness of marginalised lives, exploring the worlds of lighthouse keepers and the inhabitants of a small Kansas town, of the residents of a South London housing estate and Americans on Death Row.

Tony Parker's own upbringing was in an environment remote from those he was later to portray. He was born in Manchester into a comfortable, middle-class background. Though his mother died when he was only four years old, he was so doted upon by his father and elder sisters that he at times felt suffocated, and he would later recall his childhood with a certain unease.

Having completed his secondary education at Stockport Grammar School, he escaped to London, beginning a career as a poet and playwright with staged readings of his work on Sunday nights. He read voraciously too, including the works of Huxley and Wilfred Owen. It was probably under the influence of these writers that, when at the age of 18 he was called up, he declared himself a conscientious objector and, persuading a hostile tribunal of his convictions, was exempted from military service.

Parker was sent to work in the coalmines instead. The long hours spent down stifling shafts were a sharp contrast to his cosseted earlier life, but in his 18 months there he learnt to respect the views of those whom he worked alongside and was confirmed in his socialist beliefs.

An injury put an end to this work but Parker, with a wife and child to support, could not return to his life as a writer immediately and instead took a post as a publisher's representative. It was to be his first and last conventional job. Reading about the Craig and Bentley case in which a mentally subnormal adolescent was hanged for a murder he did not commit, Parker became a campaigner against capital punishment and a prison visitor.

After a chance encounter with a BBC radio producer, he was invited to make a programme based on an interview with one of the most difficult convicts whom he visited. It was powerfully direct, the subject encouraged to state his case with a frankness unencumbered by intervention or outside commentary.

This style was to form the basis for Parker's ensuing work as a writer. After the text of this first interview was reproduced in *The Listener*, a flood of work followed. His first book, *The Courage of His Convictions* (1962), was based on tape recorded interviews with a recidivist criminal with multiple convictions for robbery and violence. It painted a remarkable picture of an intelligent and well-read man who had no intention of ever "going straight" and no wish to reform. It was typical of Parker that he insisted the subject should be included as a joint author.

Parker would — somewhat misleadingly — claim that he had "no personality". But beneath his controlled exterior, a passionate resentment of the inequality and unfairness of modern society flared. His interests and sympathies lay chiefly with the underdog or the outsider. But his range was wide. *Soldier, Soldier* (1985) is a portrait of military life including, even, an interview with a general. Parker also aimed to give a balanced view. In *May the Lord in His Mercy be Kind to Belfast* (1993) he included interviews with terrorists on both sides of the divide, as well as contributions from priests, housewives, teachers and the Army.

Alert to the drama and interest of everyday life, Parker would spend up to 15 hours — spread over several weeks — with his subjects, listening with patience and sympathy, allowing characters gradually to unfold through repetitions, evasions and hesitation. Several of his interviewees became friends. He rarely found anyone's company tedious, but enjoyed the "perpetual surprises" of what they had to say.

Parker shied away from passing judgment and formulating theories on what he heard. "There are so many theories," he used to say, "Childhood deprivation, alcohol, the double-Y chromosome". He was sure that in 400 years people would look back on our current maps of human behaviour and find them as ludicrous as the old 15th-century maps of navigators who thought Africa was where America is.

Yet though Parker was perceived as having a basically "Christian" approach to his subjects, he himself was not altogether gratified by this perception. Though brought up in a fairly traditionally religious way, with weekly visits to Sunday school, he described himself later as an agnostic and ultimately as an atheist. He was content, he said, to be in a state of "invincible ignorance". He even — as, for example, when he was writing about Northern Ireland — found this condition to be an advantage.

Parker wrote several television plays based on material gathered in interviews. Many were broadcast on the BBC's pithily realistic *Play for Today* series, among them *Five Women*, about female prisoners, and *A Chariot of Fire*, about a child molester.

Parker was twice married. He leaves a widow, Margery, a former social worker, who used to help him in the task of transcribing taped interviews longhand. He is also survived by five children.

ALAN DOWNES



Alan Downes with Prince Charles and Prince William in 1984

Alan Downes, ITN cameraman, died on October 9 of cancer aged 58. He was born in Enfield on September 6, 1938.

ALAN DOWNES was a television cameraman who catalogued the world's woes in a brave, determined yet compassionate way for more than 30 years. One moment defines his craft — the pictures of Kim Phuc, the little girl running down the road in Vietnam after an American napalm attack on a village.

If Vietnam was the first war where the outcome was influenced by television, then this was one of the moments that brought its reality home to millions. Downes's was the only version of the whole sequence. An American network, whose cameraman was standing next to Downes, edited out the close-ups of the girl because they were thought too disturbing for an American audience.

Downes's sound man that day, Tom Phillips, tells how they first thought the dark marks on the girl were the burnt rags of what had been her clothes. Then they realised it was the effects of napalm on her skin. Downes felt that the journalists handling the story were too interested in the mechanics of the attack, whereas he sensed the lasting power of the image itself.

The impact of the sequence on public opinion around the world was shared with the still version by an agency photographer. But one of Alan's other famous sequences was undeniably exclusive.

When a Greek Cypriot coup in Cyprus in 1974 provoked a Turkish invasion, the media expected a seaborne landing on the northern coast of the island. A convoy of press cars set out from Nicosia, but on the way the car carrying Downes and the reporter Michael Nicholson broke down on the road to the coast.

The reaction among their competitors was great amusement — BBC teams poked particular fun. But the reward for the indignity of Downes and Nicholson came after all the cars had passed by, when suddenly the skies above them were filled with a Turkish paratroop drop. Nicholson began to deliver a piece to camera describing the scene around them, but interrupted himself to point to the first soldier to land. "Over there, Alan", he shouted to the camera. It was a rare but appropriate on-air name-check. Downes filmed as Nicholson walked up to the Turkish soldiers as they landed; he shook hands with some of them and said: "Welcome to Cyprus."

Alan Downes's career began in the post-room at the start of ITN in 1955. As a messenger Downes met the cameramen who had joined from the newsreels, and heard their stories of life on the road. He learnt to use a camera while doing National Service, and then returned to ITN as a fully fledged cameraman.

He went on to film conflict around the world — Angola, Afghanistan, El Salvador, Eritrea, Biafra, the Iran-Iraq war and, with sad frequency, Northern Ireland. These trips won him awards and acclaim.

But he also enjoyed a wider range of work. For instance, he spent a year working on a 1984 documentary on the Prince and Princess of Wales (*In Private, In Public*), where the remarkable access the programme-makers were given relied on winning the confidence of all those involved. Downes's professionalism was instrumental in putting everyone at their ease. He passed the test of all great cameramen in winning his colleagues' trust — his rushes always revealed that he had seen and recorded a lot of details that nobody else had noticed despite being there when they were shot.

On one royal shoot, however, he was unable to remain unobtrusive and himself became the centre of attention. At an official photocall for the young Prince William, Prince Charles brought his son forward so that he could hold a television camera for himself; the cameraman he turned the tables on was Alan Downes.

Because he was so experienced and widely-travelled, the chances were that whenever a young producer or reporter went out on a story with him, Downes had been there before, often to do a similar story. He used this experience to nurse many reporters, such as Jon Snow, through their first days. Anyone stuck in a foxhole with him could rely on Downes to get them out of it alive. And, when the team got back to base, the chances were that Downes had eaten before at the best local restaurant and knew the wine list. He would probably have his vintage chart with him anyway, just in case.

He retired from ITN in 1991. For the previous four years he had been the company's chief cameraman.

During the last few months, when the effects of a brain tumour had confined him first to hospital in London and then to a Hertfordshire hospice, his visitors included many of the most familiar faces of 40 years of British television news. They came to pay their respects to a man whose work has become part of television history.

His wife, Sheila, and their two children survive him.

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THE TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES

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DR VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

ON THIS DAY

October 11, 1952

This article, on the eve of the composer's eightieth birthday, paid tribute not only to past achievement but to his undiminished powers. A new work, Symphonia Antarctica, *was expected in the new year.*

The music of Ralph Vaughan Williams is everywhere acclaimed as the authentic voice of Britain. At one time its closeness to the soil won it the derisive appellation of parish-pump music. After that misjudgement had been smothered by the growing tale of adventurous works it was labelled "folky", which when applied to Czechs and Hungarians is a term of commendation but is used perjoratively of English music.

It is true that Vaughan Williams is a self-confessed nationalist, and his use of national folk-song as the instrument of emancipation from the Central European hegemony, which had become oppressive in all the countries on the periphery of Europe, was but a late example of what had happened a generation earlier elsewhere.

But to him nationalism is not an end in itself: rather a means of contributing something vital to the pool of European culture. His successful revolt from servitude to German models at one stroke removed the necessity for a nationalist school of composition. Vaughan Williams has thus a place in history as our chief emancipator.

By 1935, when he startled everyone with the violence of his fourth symphony, he was recognized by the critics who came at the invitation of the British Council from most of the countries of Europe as the embodiment of a challenging and distinctively English voice in European music. Happy is the man who lives long enough to look back on the accomplishment of the work he set out, or was fated, to do and to see its fruits being harvested. Happier still is he who in age finds his creative powers undiminished, whose radical mind is still unblunted and whose prophetic vision can still bring new revelations of truth.

The title of the cantata with which he first made himself known was *Towards the Unknown Region*. Now almost fifty years later he still surprises us all by his explorations into unknown regions. Thus the traditionalist who turned back to his country's folk-song and to other music of its past in order to discover his own style and idiom is also the modernist who is cited by the historian as a revolutionary technician, who beats the wild experimental men on their own ground. The composer who lives in no ivory tower but looks to the world about him for inspiration is also the prophet who sets apocalyptic words and in his seven symphonies distils into significant sound the essence of the place in which he dwells — Britain's sea, its metropolis, its countryside, its wars and its peace.

NEWS

Clarke puts his critics to flight

■ Kenneth Clarke came in from the cold yesterday with a barnstorming Tory conference performance that vanquished his foes on the Right and strengthened his authority as Chancellor.

The Conservative Party underlined its yearning for unity by giving Mr Clarke the warmest ovation of the week after he told them there was a growing "feel-good" factor in Britain that would help them to win the election ..... **Pages 1, 2, 6, 7, 21**

Major promises more cash for NHS

■ John Major will today underline his commitment to the health service with a £5 billion "guarantee" to increase spending in each of the next five years if the Conservatives win the election. The promise of real-term growth will be contained in the Conservative election manifesto ..... **Page 1**

Plea for peace

Five teenagers from across Northern Ireland's sectarian divide have issued a powerful public plea for peace in the province and urged the IRA to abandon its terrorist campaign ..... **Page 2**

DeutscheMarks

Britain is advancing in the German retail world, with Marks & Spencer opening a store in the centre of Cologne following Sir Terence Conran's venture in Hamburg ..... **Page 13, 21**

Céline 'agreed to sex'

Stuart Morgan, a lorry driver, claimed that Céline Figard, a young French student, flirted with him and consented to have sex within two hours of accepting a lift ..... **Page 3**

Song without end

To the delight of tourists, Venice city council voted to allow gondoliers and the gondola "balladeers" who accompany them to serenade customers during the day as well as at night ..... **Page 14**

Rabies appeal

Doctors appealed for contacts of a Nigerian student believed to have died from rabies to come forward for vaccination. Nurses and known friends have already been treated ..... **Page 5**

Lebed in the lead

Russia's security chief, General Aleksandr Lebed, surged ahead of his rivals in two opinion polls which showed that he would win the presidency if elections were held today ..... **Page 14**

Schools campaign

Friends of Independent Schools, whose 50,000 members have raised £300,000, launched a campaign against Opposition education policies ..... **Page 8**

Mosque on the Mount

The Islamic authorities are to open a new prayer hall under al-Aqsa mosque on Temple Mount which right-wing Jews claim is illegal ..... **Page 15**

Old blue pencil

A letter of 1589, which proposes that all comedies and tragedies should be censored by a committee before being performed in public, has been found ..... **Page 9**

Taleban fights back

The Taleban Islamic militia fought off attacks by forces of the ousted Afghan Government on two key towns north of Kabul ..... **Page 16**

HRT risk

Women taking hormone replacement therapy have at least twice the risk of developing a blood clot in their legs compared with those who do not ..... **Page 10**

Powell on parade

Bob Dole confirmed that Colin Powell, America's favourite public figure, would be "one of our stars in the new administration" ..... **Page 17**

Fisherman gets a bite

■ A man needed eight stitches in his arm after being attacked by a pike while swimming in the Cherwell. Stephen Rees scared the 4ft long fish away by shouting. Mr Rees, a keen angler, said: "The blood was pouring from my arm and the water was going red." He is seeking revenge with rod and line but so far his attacker has eluded him ..... **Page 3**

KIERAN DOHERTY/REUTERS



Norma Major on the seafront at Bournemouth yesterday with two local bakers' sons, Jamie Bennett, left, and his cousin Daniel, after they had presented her with a basket of bread to mark this year's Bread for Life festival

BUSINESS

Lloyd's: The insurance market unleashed a volley of writs against non-paying members in the first step towards recovering £500 million of debts ..... **Page 25**

Dropped: Portfolio Fund Management has dropped Jardine Fleming from its planned Asia fund. The move follows a fine on Jardine by a City watchdog ..... **Page 25**

Bank goes shopping: National Westminster Bank is to buy J O Hambro Magan, the City corporate finance boutique, for an undisclosed sum ..... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 15.6 points to close at 3993.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 87.1 to 87.2 after a rise from $1.5645 to $1.5659 and from DM2.3909 to DM2.3955 ... **Page 28**

SPORT

Football: Manchester United, the most profitable football club in the world, has been the subject of a takeover bid by Michael Grade, of Channel Four, in his capacity as chairman of a video distribution company, VCI ..... **Page 48**

Golf: Scotland, the holders, were beaten 2-1 by unseeded Sweden on the opening day of the Alfred Dunhill Cup at St Andrews yesterday ..... **Page 48**

Cycling: Chris Boardman failed in his attempt to win the world time-trial championship in Lugano, beaten into silver medal position by the Swiss, Alex Zülle ..... **Page 48**

Rowing: Greg Searle is splitting from his brother Jonny, with whom he won gold in Barcelona and bronze in Atlanta ..... **Page 43**

ARTS

Leading lady: In Oldham, *Marlene*, Pam Gems's new staged biography of the great Dietrich is saved by the star turn of actress Sian Phillips ..... **Page 37**

Pop talker: John Power, front man of the Britrock sensation Cast, is a man who just won't stop talking ..... **Page 38**

Pop albums: After 28 years, *The Rolling Stones Rock and Roll Circus* finally makes its debut; while the reunited Power Station and the newcomer Mundy deliver fine new albums ..... **Page 39**

Leading man: Martin Landau, the sixtysomething actor who made his name in the Sixties television series *Mission: Impossible*, is now turning his skills to *The Adventures of Pinocchio* ..... **Page 40**

FEATURES

Packing it in: How many of us dream of saying: "I'm going to give it all up and run away to sea"? Giles Coren meets six young people who did just that ..... **Page 18**

Valerie Grove only just manages to talk to James Mirrlees, the elusive Cambridge University professor who has won this year's Nobel Prize for economics ..... **Page 19**

EDUCATION

Child care: Just as British schools are being told to follow the Japanese methods of education, Japan is moving in the opposite direction ..... **Page 35**

Animal doctor: Qualifying as a vet is extremely hard work. A new BBCI series, *Vets' School*, looks at seven students in their final year of training ..... **Page 35**

Enticing audiences: The average age of a theatregoer is 50. More must be done to make the idea of seeing a live production fun for young people ..... **Page 35**

THE PAPERS

The choice of the Nato headquarters for his first visit by General Lebed reflects the importance Moscow attaches to the Atlantic alliance ... yet Nato cannot subordinate its transformation to the rhythm which Russia would like to impose, given that country's great instability — instability which only underlines the continued need for Nato to exist — *El Pais*

LISTINGS

Preview: Griff Rhys Jones reveals the winner of a television poll, *The Nation's Favourite Poems* (BBC1, 10.20pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond welcomes the return of *The Thief Takers* ..... **Page 43**

OPINION

The greasy pole

The Prime Minister and his troops are genuinely fond of one another. But in between lies a group of politicians thinking of their own prospects, not his ..... **Page 21**

Hadrian's Canal

The premise that a new canal would revive water transport in Britain is manifestly untrue. British canals are too few and too narrow for more than a marginal role in transport ..... **Page 21**

D-marks and Spencer

Germany today will benefit from the new cultural experience M&S will bring, and will enjoy a taste of real European integration, more meaningful than political treaties and bureaucratic edicts ..... **Page 21**

COLUMNS

LORD CRANBORNE

We may be the only man on parade in Europe who is in step. The only things constraining the Queen's subjects are Common Law and the provisions of statute ..... **Page 20**

PHILIP HOWARD

Frolic and *cavort* are true journalese. For nobody other than newspaper sub-editors would think of using the words in their new meanings — yet. There is, however, some evidence (sociological as well as empirical) that readers of newspapers pick up the short, sensational language of headlines, and start using words such as *rap*, *probe*, *oust* and *quit* in real life ..... **Page 20**

PETER RIDDELL

Kenneth Clarke set far-reaching goals for the next Parliament, which he described as "guiding stars", but with no timetable. He deserved his applause, if only for his realism ..... **Page 7**

OBITUARIES

Vice-Admiral Sir Hugh Mackenzie, first chief Polaris executive; **Tony Parker**, oral historian; **Alan Downes**, cameraman ..... **Page 21**

LETTERS

Conference debate on EMU; plea for English "Panama Canal"; breast cancer treatments ... **Page 21**



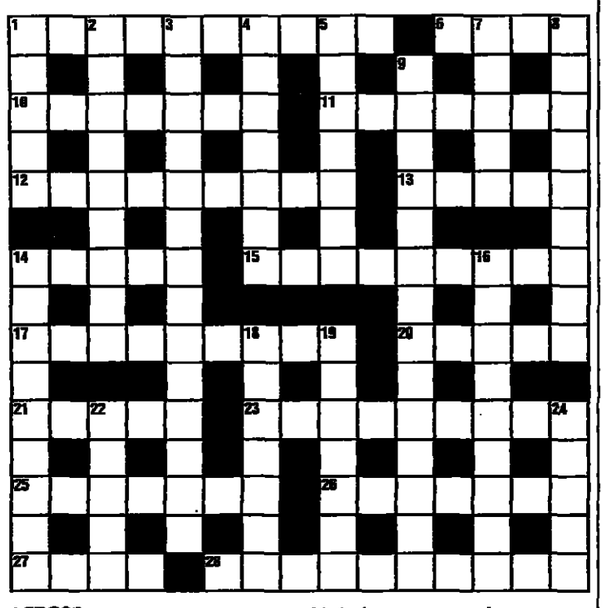
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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,296



ACROSS

1 Estimates increase no end — shocks all round (10).
6 Apparently good investment in City, of heroic proportions (4).
10 Neat getaways suit this thief (7).
11 Ideal university head, a Scot? (7).
12 Never troubled by a delinquent or dispirited (9).
13 It's not round Europe this currency's circulated (5).
14 Keen to do this civic official's job? (5).
15 Book with stiff paper (4,5).
17 Unequalled as stick-rubbing scouts? (9).
20 Electronic device in wheel, a servo-mechanism (5).
21 Old king making millions, one finally turned glum (5).
23 Ecclesiastical leader courts publicity outside church (9).
25 Bird and insect endlessly trying to get even (7).
26 A learner, say, about to get support with some maths (7).
27 Box, perhaps, that's made of wood (4).
28 One bishop meeting temptress with payment is unholy (10).

DOWN

1 Suit of a particular colour reduced in length (5).
2 Artist featured in cheap jewelry catalogue (9).
3 In disarray, like porcelain after bovine escapade? (3,4,3,4).
4 Impose capital punishment, or less extreme sentence (7).
5 Clean combination of various continental articles (7).
7 Fussily dress in skirt with very soft edging (5).
8 Person who reduces text, making study more concentrated (9).
9 One racked with guilt merely produces an affirmation of agreement (5,7,2).
14 Cheese offered by someone in club pet devours (9).
16 Unhappy race discovers rising in the interior (9).
18 Retired model who revealed a lot? (7).
19 Place fully content to admit one union (7).
22 Exclamation of annoyance after which one must take advantage (5).
24 Male facility for showing courage (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,295

N	A	T	U	R	I	S	T	■	S	T	R	A	I	T
E	■	O	■	A	■	I	■	S	■	E	■	K	■	O
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M	■	N	■	F	■	V	■	I	■	A	■	L	■	E
A	V	A	R	I	C	E	■	T	Y	N	W	A	L	D
N	■	D	■	S	■	■	T	■	T	■	■	■	O	■
■	M	O	T	H	B	A	L	L	■	S	I	N	E	W
G	■	E	■	■	M	■	E	■	■	A	■	N	■	■
U	P	S	E	T	■	E	C	S	T	A	T	I	C	■
I	■	■	A	■	T	■	■	T	■	L	■	A	■	■
D	E	L	I	L	A	H	■	P	B	T	I	F	U	L
E	■	A	■	E	■	Y	■	I	■	A	■	I	■	B
D	A	P	H	N	I	S	A	N	D	C	H	L	O	E
O	■	S	■	T	■	T	■	H	■	E	■	R	■	■
G	N	E	I	S	S	■	S	O	M	E	R	S	E	T

Times Two Crossword, page 48

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Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
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W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Rle/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
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North-east England	743
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Sun rises: 7.18 am — Sun sets: 6.16 pm

Moon sets 5.52 pm — Moon rises 5.54 am

New Moon tomorrow
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Bristol 6.25 pm to 7.29 am
Edinburgh 6.22 pm to 7.38 am
Manchester 6.21 pm to 7.31 am
Penzance 6.39 pm to 7.40 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** most places will have a bright, dry day with sunny periods after morning mistiness clears. Parts of North Wales and northern England may cloud over later with a little rain.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be generally cloudy. Southeast Scotland is likely to have the best of any brighter early weather. Rain, heavy at times over northwest Scotland, will push south over most areas. There will be gales in the North and West.

☐ **London, E Anglia, Central N, E England, Midlands, S Wales:** any mistiness quickly clearing. Dry, bright with sunny periods. Winds becoming brisk southerly. Warm. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **SE England, Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England:** bright with sunny periods, mostly dry. Wind moderate. Warm. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland:** cloudy but bright morning. Rain will spread from the North West by afternoon. Wind increasing to fresh or strong southerly later in day. Mild. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, N Ireland:** rather cloudy, rain spreading from west, heavy in places. Wind becoming strong. Mild. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** overcast with outbreaks of heavy rain. Becoming brighter and showery later. Winds strong to gale, south then southwest. Stormy. Mild. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Outlook:** mainly settled in the South and East. Cloud and rain in many other areas.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

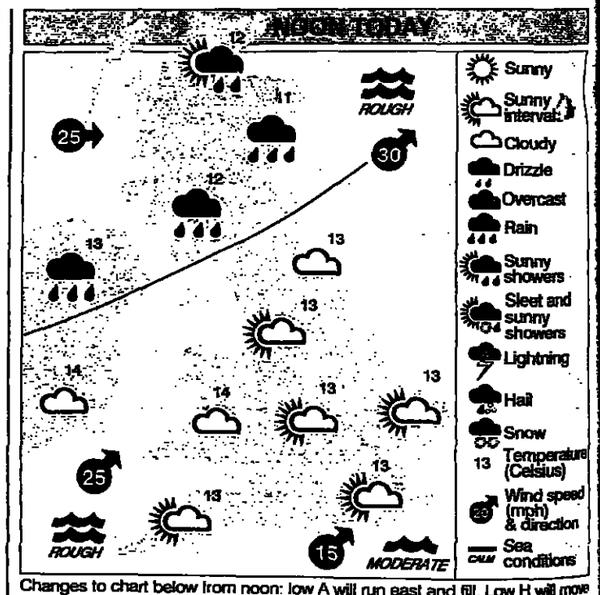
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.0	-	13	55	b	Lowestoft	1.6	0.01	14	57	c
Anglesey	0.1	-	14	57	b	Manchester	-	-	12	54	c
Aspatria	1.4	-	13	55	c	Margate	0.8	0.01	14	57	c
Aviemore	3.7	0.02	11	52	c	Minehead	0.1	0.01	12	54	c
Belfast	0.1	-	12	54	c	Morecambe	-	-	13	55	du
Bognor R	6.5	-	16	61	s	Newcastle	6.1	-	14	57	b
Bournem'th	6.6	-	17	63	s	Norwich	1.0	-	14	57	b
Bristol	0.2	-	15	59	c	Oxford	1.6	0.01	14	57	c
Buxton	-	0.01	11	52	c	Penzance	X	0.07	18	64	b
Cardiff	-	0.01	13	55	c	Prestatyn	X	-	13	55	du
Clacton	4.0	-	13	55	s	Ross-o-wye	0.5	-	13	55	c
Colwyn Bay	-	-	14	57	c	Salcombe	3.0	-	16	61	c
Cromer	3.6	0.01	13	55	s	Sandown	5.9	0.01	15	59	s
Eastbourne	1.2	-	15S9			Scarbo Snd	2.6	0.01	16	61	s
Eskdalemuir	0.5	0.01	11	52	c	Scarboro'	5.3	-	12	54	s
Exmouth	2.5	-	15	59	s	Shrewsbury	-	0.01	13	55	b
Falmouth	6.4	-	16	61	s	Skegness	7.2	-	13	55	s
Fishguard	0.1	-	13	55	c	Southend	X	-	18	61	s
Glasgow	0.8	0.01	13	55	sh	Southport	-	0.01	12	54	c
Guernsey	0.2	-	15	59	c	Southsea	6.8	-	15	59	s
Hayling I.	6.2	-	15	59	s	Stornoway	2.1	0.02	11	52	sh
Herne Bay	2.7	0.01	13	55	b	Swanage	6.2	-	15	59	s
Hove	5.1	-	16	61	s	Teignmouth	3.6	0.01	15	59	c
Hunstanton	5.6	-	13	55	s	Tenby	0.7	-	14	57	b
Isle of Man	0.1	-	13	55	c	Tiree	0.6	0.06	12	54	sh
Kinloss	3.6	0.01	13	55	b	Torquay	2.3	0.06	16	61	b
Leeds	4.3	-	15	59	c	Tynemouth	-	-	9	48	c
Leuchars	5.4	-	13	55	b	Ventnor	6.6	-	16	61	s
Littlehmptn	5.7	-	15	59	s	West-s-mare	-	-	14	57	du
London	5.6	-	15	59	s	Weymouth	4.5	-	15	59	s

ABROAD

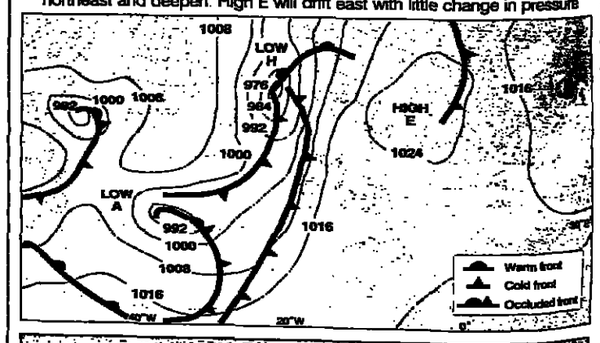
Ajaccio	21	70	s	C'phagn	13	55	c	Malta	19	66	f
Akrotiri	26	79	s	Dublin	13	55	c	Melb'rne	21	70	s
Alex'dria	28	82	s	Dubrovnik	20	68	c	Mexico C	X		
Algiers	22	72	s	Faro	20	68	s	Miami	29	84	s
Amst'dm	14	57	c	Florence	20	68	f	Milan	23	73	s
Athens	18	64	f	Frankfurt	15	59	c	Montreal	12	54	f
B Aires	25	77	f	Funchal	22	72	f	Moscow	11	52	c
Bahrain	33	91	s	Geneva	13	55	c	Munich	11	52	r
Bangkok	32	90	f	Gibraltar	20	68	s	N Delhi	30	86	s
Barbados	25	77	f	Helsinki	10	50	r	N York	18	64	s
Barcelona	20	68	s	Hong K	25	77	c	Nairobi	26	79	f
Beirut	27	81	f	Innsbruck	13	55	c	Naples	21	70	f
Belgrade	15	59	f	Istanbul	19	66	f	Nice	22	72	f
Berlin	15	59	c	Jeddah	33	91	s	Oslo	11	52	f
Bermuda	27	81	f	Jo'burg	26	79	s	Paris	13	55	d
Biarritz	17	63	f	L Angels	20	68	c	Peking	22	72	s
Borde'x	18	64	f	L Palmas	24	75	c	Perth	18	64	f
Brussels	15	59	f	Le Touqt	13	55	f	Prague	14	57	c
Budapst	17	63	c	Lisbon	22	72	s	Reykjavik	2	36	c
Cairo	29	84	s	Locarno	18	64	c	Rhodes	25	77	f
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Luxembg	14	57	c	Rio de J	24	75	f
Ch'church	X			Luxor	33	91	s	Riyadh	37	99	s
Chicago	13	55	s	Madrid	18	64	s	Rome	22	72	f
Cologne	15	59	s	Majorca	21	70	f	S Fr'isco	X		
Corfu	22	72	f	Malaga	22	72	s	S Paulo	X		
Salzburg	14	57	c
Santiago	13	55	c
Seoul	19	66	s
Sing'por	27	81	r
Sydney	23	73	s
Tangier	21	70	s
Tel Aviv	27	81	f
Tenerife	25	77	f
Tokyo	20	68	f
Toronto	9	48	r
Tunis	18	64	c
Valencia	22	72	s
Vanc'ver	16	61	s
Venice	20	68	s
Vienna	15	59	c
Warsaw	15	59	f
Wash'ton	19	66	f
Wel'ington	X		
Zurich	12	54	c

Temperatures at midday local time Wednesday X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: low A will run east and fill. Low H will move northeast and deepen. High E will drift east with little change in pressure



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	0:43	6.6	12:58	6.6	Leith	1:26	5.3	1:48	5.3
Aberdeen	0:18	4.2	12:41	4.2	Liverpool	10:24	8.9	10:36	9.1
Avonmouth	5:17	12.5	6:23	12.8	Lowestoft	8:21	2.6	8:59	2.5
Bolfast	10:26	3.3	10:24	3.5	Margate	11:02	4.5	11:29	4.5
Cardiff	5:58	10.9	6:15	11.3	Milford Haven	5:17	6.8	5:31	6.8
Devonport	4:46	5.2	5:00	5.3	Newquay	4:05	6.2	4:22	6.4
Dover	10:07	8.5	10:24	6.4	Oban	4:57	3.8	5:05	4.0
Dublin (N Wall)	10:47	3.9	10:56	4.0	Penzance	3:40	5.3	3:56	5.4
Falmouth	4:01	4.7	4:17	4.9	Portland	5:44	1.9	5:55	2.0
Greenock	12:06	3.3	11:55	3.4	Portsmouth	10:28	4.6	10:37	4.5
Harwich	10:54	3.9	11:18	3.9	Shoreham	10:16	6.0	10:29	6.0
Holyhead	9:23	5.3	9:36	5.5	Southampton	9:52	4.5	10:08	4.5
Ilfracombe	5:01	8.9	5:16	9.1	Swansea	5:24	9.1	5:40	9.3
King's Lynn	5:22	5.9	5:41	6.1	Tees	2:33	5.1	2:58	5.1
					Walton-on-Naze	10:49	4.2	11:14	4.2

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, 18C (64F); lowest day max: Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, 9C (48F); highest rainfall: Machrihanish, Kintyre, 0.43in; highest sunshine: Skegness, Lincolnshire, 7.2hr.

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RNLI RESCUE UPDATE — 11 OCTOBER 1996

Total number of lives saved so far this year: 701
Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year: 3,378
Cost to RNLI per day: £173,000
Cost to taxpayer: £0
To make a donation, telephone: 0800 543210

Lifeboats
Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Reg. Charity No. 209603

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